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Issue No 164

Available from Wednesday,  
November 17, 2010

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## ASHFORD DEFENDS RECYCLING RECORD

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ISSN 1753-117-9



### CHILDREN PAY RESPECTS

Children from St Martin's school in Dover pay their respects at the grave of The Unknown Warrior at Westminster Abbey last Sunday.

The train carriage that carried the anonymous hero, who represents all those who died in the First World War, to his final resting place has been restored near Ashford.

FULL STORY ON PAGE 2

BY NICK AMES

ASHFORD council has vowed to clean up its act when it comes to recycling – but not for another four months.

The local authority has been named as the worst in England when it comes to greening its waste collection.

Figures from DEFRA revealed just 15 per cent of household refuse is recycled locally, against a national average of 39.7 per cent.

The figure was branded "appalling" by the Green Party.

Councillors said recycling and waste was a major priority for the authority and steps were being implemented to improve practice in the next five-year plan.

However, this does not come into force until April next year.

Steve Dawe is co-ordinator of the Kent Green Party and lived near to Victoria Park, Ashford, for five years.

He said: "I was never impressed with the council's commitment to recycling when I lived in the borough.

"They refused a request to increase doorstep collections and that is a major reason for this appalling rating. The council has come last out of the entire number of councils in England, and that is a conspicuous failure."

As well as promising action, the council has defended some of its actions – and claimed its service is cost-efficient.

Cllr Gerry Clarkson, portfolio holder for environmental services, said: "It's unfortunate that the figures from DEFRA on the amount of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

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# Historic war carriage rides again 90 years on

■ BY NICK AMES

A NEWLY restored train carriage has been unveiled 90 years after it carried the body of the Unknown Warrior to Westminster Abbey.

The Kent and East Sussex Railway raised £35,000 to restore the train carriage which conveyed the remains of the First World War's most symbolic casualty.

The Unknown Warrior is buried in Westminster Abbey, a memorial to those killed in the First World War.

The railway, which runs from Tenterden to Bodiam, in East Sussex, unveiled the carriage at a ceremony on Wednesday in front of Admiral The Lord Boyce, Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, as well as service personnel, nurses and local dignitaries.

The train also carried the bodies of heroic nurse Edith Cavell and brave merchant seaman Captain Charles Fryatt from Dover to London following their arrival from Europe.

The first journey was made in May 1919 with the body of Edith Cavell who had helped Allied soldiers escape from the Germans before she was arrested and then shot on 12 October 1915 for "assisting the enemy".

The carriage then became known to railwaymen as the Cavell Van.

Two months after her repatriation, it carried the remains of merchant seaman Captain Charles Fryatt, who was shot after his vessel attempted to ram U-boat U33 in March 1915, instead of stopping, as ordered.

The heritage railway raised £35,000 for the restoration which as far as possible mirrors its appearance on November 10, 1920 when the Unknown Warrior's remains were carried in front of thousands of spectators who lined the tracks.



**MEMORABLE JOURNEY:** The Kent and East Sussex Railway raised £35,000 to restore the original carriage that carried the body of the Unknown Warrior, which was unveiled at a special ceremony



Railway chairman

Norman Brice said: "Our project has attracted a great deal of attention and interest but perhaps the most striking aspect was that the metalwork, plaque and sword were fitted to the replica coffin by the grandson of the man who did the original work."

"The van is on display at the station in Bodiam, but will occasionally be attached to travelling trains."

"It will be open to the public when the railway is in operation."

The designation of the unique and

historic rolling stock is passenger luggage van No 132 and it was originally built by the South Eastern and Chatham Railway for general use.

As well as its three momentous journeys it operated on various rail networks in Kent.

It arrived at the historic line in 2004 when the campaign to refurbish it started.

It contains an altar and drapes with a Union Flag covered coffin as it did 90 years ago along with newsreels showing scenes of the burials and footage of the war.

## Linda is full of pride for design



**SHORTLISTED:** Linda Hawey with her design and Colleen Rooney at the Pride of Britain Awards

A KENT on Sunday reader from Sellindge has been shortlisted for her dress design which reflects people's pride in the nation.

Linda Hawey was present at the Pride of Britain Awards last week where she was photographed with Colleen Rooney. Her design was shortlisted in a national dress design competition for Littlewoods.com that also featured in Kent On Sunday.

Littlewoods.com launched a national search called Proud to Dress, which invited entrants from all over the country to design an outfit that best brought to life their interpretation of British pride.

Kent on Sunday supported the search by running a competition which Linda saw, entered and won.

Mrs Hawey's design was shortlisted to the last three entrants judged by a panel that included Colleen Rooney.

The designs were all brought to life and put on display for the evening. The final winner was Hannah Costello, a 14-year-old from Belfast.

Colleen Rooney said: "I've been really impressed with the quality of the entries to the Littlewoods Proud to Dress Britain competition. Designs had to take inspiration from the colours of the Union Flag, to reflect Littlewoods.com's sponsorship of the Pride of Britain Awards."

"The entries really embraced this theme and we received brilliant red, white and blue creations from people of every age all over the country. The three winners stood out to me because their designs were so creative in making items which were both patriotic and fashionable."

The Pride of Britain Awards on ITV was attended by Prince Charles and the Duchess of Cornwall.

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# Where the axe will fall to cut budget by £3.7m

■ BY ED HILL

INCREASING parking charges, cancelling the printed version of the council's Ashford Voice magazine and moving tourist information centre to the new Gateway Plus building are just some of the responses to the Government cuts.

The council wants to save £3.7 million over the next five years and the changes have been made as a result of the recent online Have Your Say consultation.

The council will also lose 40 posts. After redeployment, natural wastage and voluntary redundancies, this may mean 6 to 10 job losses.

CCTV coverage will also be reduced by about a third, and grass cutting in parks and road verges will be less frequent.

Rubbish collection will also be changed. Instead of all rubbish being collected weekly, food waste will be collected each week. A general rubbish collection including recyclable material will happen every fortnight. There will also be an optional green waste collection.

Parking will go up 10p to £1 an hour across the borough. The council's customer service centre opening times will reduce to 8.30am to 4pm, and less time will be spent on the administration of benefits, tourism and office tasks.

The council says it wants to save between 25 and 40 per cent from its budget.

Chief executive of Ashford council, John Bunnett, said: "Having listened to local people,



**ARTS BLOW:** Projects such as this decorative hoarding around the new library building could lose their funding

we have made some tough decisions about our focus for the next five years.

"Our business plan will be supported by clear actions and measurable goals to help us track our progress."

The key priorities from 2011 to 2015, based on residents' feedback, were improved recycling and waste services, creating more activities for young people and making housing and the sustainable growth of Ashford a priority.

Residents also indicated they would end the council's programme of arts events, such as the Create Festival, but the council is holding back

on deciding their future until it gets the results of a separate survey on the arts.

It also hopes to save £50,000 across its leisure provision by exploring other funding options.

Leader of Ashford council, Cllr Peter Wood, added: "We have worked hard to get a measure of residents' service priorities early, so that we could make savings in the right places when required."

"We are very grateful to all the residents who, through the recent consultations, have helped the local authority create more efficient and effective public services for all."

## Partner in court on murder charge

THE trial began this week of Steven Brooker, the man charged with murdering his partner Susie Smith in April.

Brooker, 42, from Waterman House, Godfrey Road, Ashford, has pleaded not guilty to murder.

Susie Smith, 50, also known as Susie Beaney, died in the William Harvey Hospital after she was found with serious injuries in an alleyway between Christchurch Road and Godfrey Walk in South Ashford.

The grandmother and mother of six had collapsed at lunchtime that day outside the Post Office in Tufton Street. A passer-by called an ambulance.

Later that evening she was found with stab wounds in the alleyway. Police carried out forensic investigations and door-to-door enquiries in the area.

Mr Brooker was arrested soon after Susie Smith died.

Neighbours said the couple had lived in the area for at least four years.

## Witness appeal after lake attack

POLICE are looking for a cyclist who may have seen a sexual assault on a teenager at Singleton Lake.

An 18-year-old girl was attacked on a path near the lake on the evening of Tuesday, November 9. She was forced to the floor by a man who indecently assaulted her.

Police are eager to talk to a cyclist who went by during the assault – and anyone else who might have seen anything.

The area was searched after the incident, and a mobile police station was at the scene the next day hoping to find witnesses.

Anyone who can help police with their inquiries should call 01622 690690.

## Seeking green waste solution

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

waste households recycle in Ashford are lower than we would like.

"We acknowledge that we should endeavour to increase the amount of waste recycled overall in the borough, and recycling and waste is a major priority in the council's Five Year Business Plan which will be implemented from April 2011. But we will continue to take an approach which seeks to recycle waste in ways that make sense.

"Ashford has not chased recycling performance at any cost, but has chosen instead to adopt an environmentally-efficient approach to its service. We do not feel that collecting waste that is ultimately transferred to China for reprocessing is a sensible approach.

"Instead we have chosen to convert around 85 per cent of the waste generated into energy at the Maidstone Energy from Waste Plant.

"Our paper, glass and metal recycling levels are at around the UK average because we can sell these into established UK markets.

"Green waste recycling is low, but we encourage residents to compost. We also intend to introduce a chargeable green waste recycling collection service for urban areas, our service is also one of the most cost-effective in the county."

## Councillor loses his battle with cancer

A LONG-standing member of Ashford council has died after a battle against cancer.

Cllr Major John Frederick Kemp MBE represented Kennington ward on the council for 21 years.

He moved to Kennington after a career in the Royal Mechanical and Electrical Engineers where he rose to the rank of major. After leaving the Army he served a further 10 years with the Territorial Army and was awarded an MBE in 1987.

Cllr Michael Cloughton joined the council a year later than Cllr Kemp and they became good friends.

He said: "John Kemp was a man of the people. His death is a huge loss to the council and the community. In addition to his great professionalism I shall miss his sense of humour."

Cllr Kemp represented the council on many local committees and organisations and had a particular interest in health matters.

He was the council representative on the Ashford Old People's Welfare Committee, Kennington Parochial Charities, South East Employers, Ashford Almshouses and Parochial Charities, the East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust and Ashford's Future Company Board.



During his time as a councillor, he was chairman of many different committees, including the NHS Forum, the Crime Reduction Working Group and the Police Liaison Task Group and portfolio holder for development, partnerships and personnel.

He leaves two children and five grandchildren.

Cllr Peter Wood, council leader, said: "We are very sad indeed to hear this news. Cllr Kemp was a highly respected member of Ashford council and he will be sorely missed. During his time as a councillor he displayed integrity, loyalty and great passion for the community. We extend our deepest sympathies to his family."

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# Police rider saddles up in battle against horse-related crime

■ BY ED HILL

A NEW scheme to reduce rural and equine-related crime in the area has been launched by Kent Police.

East Kent Horsethatch has been set up by Crime Reduction Officer PC Di Leslie-Veal to improve communication with horse riders and owners.

The aim is to raise awareness of crimes such as theft of hay and tack and to give crime prevention advice.

It follows a rise in the incidents of hay being stolen. There is a shortage of hay this year due to a early dry summer followed cold and wet weather.

The scheme includes a new Facebook page East Kent Horsethatch so that riders can stay in touch with each other. It is hoped the internet network will be as effective as a similar scheme which closed last year.

## Information

PC Leslie-Veal is a member of National Horsethatch Alliance and is also working closely with the Country Eye Rural Policing initiative which is similar to Neighbourhood Watch, but for the rural community.

As a horse owner herself, it is a matter that is close to PC Leslie-Veal's heart.

She said: "Since Kent Horsethatch had to close due to unforeseen circumstances last year, there has been a definite need for a source of contact and sharing of information in the equestrian world.

"It's still early days but there are more than 500 members on the Facebook page already and that is a great way for me to share information in a cost effective way.

"We've already had some early successes due to simply being able to share information. Two horses were reported as stolen



**HORSE WATCH:** PC Di Leslie-Veal has set up scheme that will raise awareness of equine-related crime

locally, and due to horsethatch and observant members, they were found nearby and had simply escaped from their field.

"With my experience and knowledge of equestrianism, I've been able to help fellow police officers with enquires relating to equestrian crime."

East Kent Horsethatch covers Ashford, Dover, Canterbury, Thanet, Shepway, and part of Swale.

Anyone who wants to join the East Kent Horsethatch can either sign up to a special Facebook Page: East Kent Horsethatch or contact PC Di Leslie-Veal by email at 8733@kent.pnn.police.uk

yourashford

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Mini motorbikes warning

POLICE are warning that mini-moto bikes will be seized and the riders could be charged if they are used on roads or in the countryside without the legal documentation.

The reminder is being sent out after an elderly woman was nearly knocked over by two mini-moto riders on the morning last Wednesday (November 10) in an alleyway near Highworth School which leads to Ashord Warren.

PC Paul Morton said: "Bikes can be seized if the rider does not have tax, insurance or a driving licence. Riders could also face prosecution for breaking the law.

"Mini-motos cannot be used on public roads and can only be used on private land with the landowner's permission."

### Hospital parking concerns

POLICE are targeting drivers who park inconsiderately in roads near to the William Harvey Hospital.

Last week they visited Blackwall Road South and Wilson Close where residents had expressed concerns about drivers parking across their driveways, on dangerous bends and too near to junctions.

Officers warned drivers when they were on patrol in streets in the area on Monday, November 8 and say they will return to keep an eye on the situation on a regular basis.

PCSO supervisor Bill Waterman said: "We are doing this in response to residents' concerns. We will take action if necessary."

### Lights down at village flicks

A NEW cinema experience has come to Woodchurch Memorial Hall.

The film society is screening hit musical Mamma Mia on Friday. Tickets will cost £2 (half price) and people will have the chance to find out more about the new society.

Kent County Council funding has paid for a projector and surround sound, so the hall can be transformed into a cinema once a month.

Woodchurch Film Society's full programme begins on January 7, at a special gala event.

For details visit [www.woodchurch-pc.gov.uk](http://www.woodchurch-pc.gov.uk), or Woodchurch Film Society on Facebook.

## Regeneration must work in harmony with nature

BUSINESS and infrastructure development needs to go hand in hand with a respect for the environment under legislation introduced this year.

Phil Bolton of the Aylesham-based Wildthing Wildlife Consultancy is responsible for compiling the compulsory ecological reports which must accompany any new building project.

Recently he was responsible for ensuring a 200-year-old hedgerow was preserved as a building went up around it in Ashford.

"What we did was remove the hedgerow and then replant it when construction was over," said Mr Bolton.

"In that way valuable wildlife and plant life was protected for the future."

This year, Government legislation has required each planning application to be accompanied by an ecological impact report.

"It could be a road, a railway line or a large building," said Mr Bolton. "It could even be just a single home.

"Looking at things realistically, we need infrastructure and we need buildings. But this need must be balanced with the damage to habitats and it is my job to protect them.



**CONSERVATIONIST:** Phil Bolton of the Wildthing Wildlife Consultancy at Business Week Live

"I can work anywhere across the country, although primarily I am based in the South East.

"I have taken a stand at Business Week Live as I felt it is important companies understand what it is I do and the importance of protecting our natural resources.

"Altogether I have been in this business for 30 years and I have also been a teacher so I fully understand the importance of communication - which is what events such as this are all about."

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## *Santa has arrived...*

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in December and every  
day from Monday 21st  
of December until  
Christmas Eve







**ALL ABOARD:** Public transport will be improving

## Bus travel around town to get easier

KENT County Council is going to install more raised kerbs at bus stops in the town. The move is part of a number of actions being taken by the county council, Ashford council and Stagecoach to improve access to the town's buses.

As well as the kerb improvements to make it easier for people with limited mobility, wheelchairs and children's buggies, to get on and off buses, there will be a clampdown on people parking illegally at bus stops.

The bus company Stagecoach says it will also introduce more low-floor buses and Ashford council will step up enforcing the no-parking zones.

Cllr Paul Clokie, Ashford council's executive member for strategic development, said: "Access to good public transport is one of our town's biggest assets. We must ensure that this applies to the whole service, even the smallest bus stop."

There has been an 18 per cent increase year on year of passengers using buses around Ashford.

Nick Chard, KCC cabinet member for Highways, said: "We have a really successful Quality Bus Partnership in Ashford which has secured better bus services for all. I want to send a clear message to motorists that bus stops are important and should not be obstructed."

# Junction nine scheme on road to completion

THE improvements to junction nine of the M20 and Drovers Roundabout are half way through.

Work to widen slip roads and the approaches to the roundabouts began in June this year.

Andrew Burton, Kent County Council project manager for the scheme says it will provide extra capacity on the area's roads to accommodate the town's expected growth.

He said: "The later we leave it the more disruption we will get in the long term. We are doing it now in one big hit so it means drivers will suffer less overall."

Funding for the £15 million project comes from the government in Regional Infrastructure Funding. The money was secured before the recent Government spending review which means many similar projects have been put on hold.

Last week it was announced plans to build a new motorway to the east of the town (Junction 10a) have been put on hold for five years so the Department of Transport can look again at the project.

■ BY ED HILL

The loan will be paid back by developers as and when houses get built in the area.

Kent County Council is managing the project on behalf of Ashford's Future. Jacobs consultants and BAM Nuttall are the contractors carrying out the work.

During peak times the lanes at the roadworks are kept open to reduce the disruption to traffic. However, this means contractors have a shorter window during the day to carry out the work.

So far the scheme is on track for completion at the end of March providing the weather does not hold up the project during the winter.

As well as widening the roads on the approaches to the roundabouts there will also be traffic signals installed at junction nine and at the Drovers Roundabout on the A28.

Mr Burton said: "This will mean it is a fairer way for drivers to get onto the roundabout. We will also be installing green man signals to make it easier for people crossing the road."



**IMPROVEMENT:** Andrew Burton KCC and Barry Stiff from Jacobs Engineering consultants oversee the roadworks

The most noticeable change to the junction will be a large foot and cycle bridge over the M20 running from the Eureka Leisure Park and Warren Retail Park. It is hoped the structure will create an iconic landmark for drivers on the M20 as they approach Ashford.

Mr Burton said: "At the moment people have to walk under the M20. This will create a better environment for them and show people as the drive along the motorway the investment that is going into Ashford."

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## QUESTION & ANSWER

# JO JAMES



**Q** How long have you had connections with Kent?

**A** My grandparents lived here, and although I was an Army child and therefore lived in various places, we always maintained contact here. I finally settled in Kent permanently 35 years ago.

**Q** How did you get involved in the Chamber of Commerce?

**A** I originally ran a children's nursery, but had to take a long break from work for medical reasons. As I recovered, I felt that, although I had young children at home, I needed some part time work and I answered a small-ad for 12 hours a week of secretarial work. I can do that, I thought. That was in July 1990. The job turned out to be at the then Ashford Chamber of Commerce, and I have been with the Chamber ever since. I suppose you could say that I have just completed 20 years of my sentence!

**Q** Can you tell us about the Chamber and how it helps business in the county?

**A** We use the strapline 'The Ultimate Business Network' and that is what we try to be. It means we are here to help any business in any capacity that we can. Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce can advise and support anybody from the initial dream of a business conception through to a successful trading environment and the fulfilment of that dream. For existing companies of all shapes and sizes, we can help

monitor, develop and expand their trading operation by cutting costs, increasing productivity and advise on all aspects of business practice. Our members can benefit from our extensive networking opportunities, cost-effective member services of all kinds, and frequent workshops and advisory clinics.

**Q** What would you say are the challenges facing business at the moment?

**A** The biggest challenge at present has to be the ramifications of the recession and the Government's efforts to mitigate the effects of it. There is no doubt that cutbacks and the restructuring of the infrastructure of business support will have wide-ranging effects on the business environment. The running down of the Regional Development Agencies and the introduction of Local Enterprise Partnerships is another crucial aspect with currently uncertain outcomes. It is highly likely that we are entering a period of significant change in the whole gamut of business and commerce, and we really have little idea how it will pan out. That uncertainty is probably what constitutes the biggest challenge. How we respond to it is something we have to learn as it unfolds.

**Q** Are you optimistic about the new government plans for local enterprise partnerships?

**A** Cautiously optimistic, I believe that any change always presents opportunities. If change can present opportunities, then I feel

that the Kent, Greater Essex & East Sussex LEP should be in a position to maximise those opportunities. Provided that the LEPs operate as conceived, with a major element of input from business, then I believe that we can look forward to a positive future.

**Q** Is there too much red tape for start-up businesses?

**A** I could devote a whole page to the subject of business red tape, and not just where start-ups are concerned. There are far too many impediments to business growth and development, and frankly it would be tedious to try and list them all. This is where I have great hopes that a business-led LEP will be able to help.

**Q** What is the Chamber's attitude towards the EU?

**A** One of the many effects of the changing economy might well be a down-turn in domestic demand, and the EU represents a whole new market available to local business, which has, frankly, thus far been slow to exploit that potential. Perhaps we have been concentrating too much on the market on our doorstep. A strong EU represents a strong market opportunity, and we should all work towards it.

• **Contact the Chamber at Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce, Waterbrook Avenue, Sevington, Ashford TN24 0LH. Tel: 01233 503838. Email: info@kentinvictachamber.co.uk. Web: www.kentinictachamber.co.uk.**

# Q&A

Ed Hill talks to Jo James the Chief Executive of the Invicta Chamber of Commerce about the future of business in the county in face of the recession and cutbacks and how things will shape up in the future

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Also on offer is a wide range of locally produced jams, chutneys, beers and cakes which can be personalised to create a hamper or gift box.

The company has also just launched an online purchasing website in time for Christmas. For more information call 01580 291 726, or visit [www.biddenden-vineyards.com](http://www.biddenden-vineyards.com).

The shop is open 10am-5pm Monday-Saturday and 11am-5pm Sundays.

## Indian restaurant spices up decor

THE Mouchak Indian restaurant in St Michaels near Tenterden has reopened after a four-month refurbishment.

Restaurant proprietor RK Raja said: We have Dragged Mouchak into the modern era of fine Indian dining. The previous décor was very dated."

The new-look restaurant, has grown its capacity from 46 to 54 diners. It also has a new bar, air conditioning, fresh white washed walls, bare floor boards, impressionist artworks, a low ceiling with improved, subtle lighting and new furniture.

Mouchak, has been nominated for a prestigious Spice Times Restaurant Awards 2010. To vote for it and the Raja of Kent go online at [www.spicetimes.co.uk](http://www.spicetimes.co.uk).

# Manufacturing wheels are still being greased

ASHFORD has a proud history of manufacturing that is even reflected in the nickname of the town's football club, the Nuts and Bolts.

Although the sector has suffered in recent years, one company still making groundbreaking products is MJ Allen.

The family-owned group, established in 1958, has interests in many areas of the metal working business including casting, machining, sheet metal and architectural work, as well as providing parts for the automotive industry.

Derek Goodger, company sales director, said: "We have the last foundry in Kent producing castings on a large scale."

One of the latest products the company is selling is an advanced four-wheel drive transmission system for Ford. The clever gismo is fitted to the company's standard model Transit van so they can be used on rough terrain, automatically providing drive for each wheel when it is needed.

Mr Goodger said: "These are very popular with customers such as the utility companies who use these vehicles for maintenance. At the

■ BY ED HILL

moment we have to produce 60 of these a week."

The company, based at the Cobbs Wood Industrial Estate, was one of the companies at last week's Business Week Live event organised by KOS.

It also makes casings for turbochargers supplied to the German lorry maker MAN for their diesel and marine engines, and owns the Nottingham-based company National Auto Parts that provides items such as brake discs, pads and clutch plates for the car industry.

At a time when the UK is looking to expand its manufacturing sector, MJ Allen can still draw on the skills to produce advanced engineering products. As well as producing parts for the motor industry, it also works in the defence sector making components for a warship protection system, tooling and precision gauges.

Another Ashford based company at the event exploiting the latest digital technology was Pagesuite.

The company has the ideal software for applications on Apple's iPad and similar mobile internet viewers.



TECHNOLOGY: Sean Seymour from company Pagesuite

Sean Seymour from the company said: "These new devices are great for us and for media companies like KOS that get on board. The screens are designed with books and papers in mind so you have the same clarity as if the paper was in front of you."

Another exhibitor was Matt Hopkins from Smarden who is in the early stages of building up his design company.

The Cambridge university architecture graduate has transferred those skills to the world of graphic design and the internet.

He said: "There is a lot of overlap between architecture and web design. At first I worked in admin for a company which helped me to see how business works but a lot of people had liked what I had done in graphic design so I thought I should give it a go."

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# B

Bannatyne's Health Club  
[www.bannatyne.co.uk](http://www.bannatyne.co.uk)



one**life** one**club**ashford**exercise**  
**activity**timetable

6th September 2010 - 2nd January 2011

**monday****STUDIO 1**

09.30-10.30 **Legs, Bums, Turns**  
 10.35-11.35 **Body Combat**  
 11.45-12.45 **Stretch, Tone & Relax**  
 13.00-14.00 **Hi/Lo Aerobics**  
 17.30-18.30 **Body Balance**  
 18.30-19.30 **Dance Style Aerobics**  
 19.30-20.15 **Body Combat**  
 20.15-21.15 **Body Pump**

**STUDIO 2**

09.30-10.30 **Step**  
 10.45-11.45 **Pilates Flow**  
 17.30-18.00 **Ab Attack**  
 18.00-18.45 **Self Defence**  
 18.45-19.45 **Yoga**  
 20.00-21.00 **Pilates**

**SPIN STUDIO**

06.45-07.30 **Early Spin**  
 17.00-17.45 **Vibe Cycle**  
 18.00-18.45 **Spin**

**AQUA**

10.30-11.15 **Aqua Aerobics**

**SPECIAL INTERESTS**

09.00-10.00 **Plan B**

**tuesday****STUDIO 1**

09.30-10.30 **Body Combat**  
 12.30-13.45 **Yoga**  
 18.00-19.00 **Step**  
 19.05-20.05 **Body Combat**  
 20.15-21.15 **Body Balance**

**STUDIO 2**

10.45-11.30 **Dance Technique**  
 18.15-19.00 **On the Ball**  
 19.00-20.00 **Dancercise**

**SPIN STUDIO**

06.45-07.30 **Spin**  
 09.30-10.30 **Vibe Cycle**  
 17.15-18.00 **Spin**  
 19.45-20.45 **Spin**

**AQUA**

09.30-10.15 **Aqua Aerobics**  
 11.30-12.30 **Swimfit**  
 18.00-18.45 **Aqua Aerobics**

**wednesday****STUDIO 1**

06.45-07.45 **Body Pump**  
 09.30-10.30 **Step**  
 10.40-11.40 **Pump Fusion**  
 11.45-12.45 **Body Balance**  
 12.45-13.45 **Hi/Lo Aerobics**  
 18.00-19.00 **Pump up the Max**  
 19.15-20.15 **Boxercise**

**STUDIO 2**

09.30-10.30 **Gym Fusion**  
 10.35-11.35 **Body Combat**  
 17.15-18.00 **Cardio Kick**  
 18.05-19.05 **Step**

**SPIN STUDIO**

06.45-07.30 **Spin**  
 19.30-20.30 **Vibe Cycle**

**AQUA**

09.30-10.15 **Aqua Aerobics**  
 18.30-19.15 **Aqua Aerobics**

**thursday****STUDIO 1**

09.30-10.30 **Chi Ball**  
 11.00-12.00 **Pilates 1**  
 15.30-16.45 **Yoga**  
 18.00-19.00 **Body Combat**  
 19.15-20.15 **Body Pump**  
 20.30-21.15 **Circuits**

**STUDIO 2**

10.40-11.40 **Dancercise**  
 17.15-18.00 **On the Ball**  
 18.00-19.00 **Yoga**

**SPIN STUDIO**

06.45-07.45 **Vibe Cycle**  
 09.30-10.30 **Vibe Cycle**  
 19.30-20.15 **Vibe Cycle**

**AQUA**

09.30-10.15 **Aqua Aerobics**

**SPECIAL INTERESTS**

19.00-20.00 **Plan B**

**friday****STUDIO 1**

06.45-07.30 **Vinyasa Flow**  
 09.30-10.30 **Step**  
 10.40-11.25 **Body Balance**  
 11.45-12.30 **On the Ball**  
 12.30-13.30 **Mind, Body & Soul**  
 18.30-19.30 **Salsacise**

**STUDIO 2**

09.30-10.30 **Vibe Nitro**  
 17.30-18.30 **Pilates**

**SPIN STUDIO**

13.15-14.00 **Spin**  
 17.00-18.00 **Vibe Cycle**

**AQUA**

09.15-10.15 **Swim Fit**  
 10.30-11.15 **Aqua Aerobics**

**saturday****STUDIO 1**

08.15-09.15 **Boxercise**  
 09.30-10.30 **Body Pump**  
 10.45-11.45 **Body Balance**  
 12.00-12.45 **Kidz Fit 6-10yrs**

**SPIN STUDIO**

08.15-09.00 **Vibe Cycle**  
 09.30-10.30 **Vibe Cycle**

**AQUA**

10.30-11.15 **Aqua Aerobics**

**sunday****STUDIO 1**

10.30-11.30 **Body Pump**  
 11.45-12.45 **Yoga**

**STUDIO 2**

10.30-11.30 **Body Combat**

**SPIN STUDIO**

09.15-10.15 **Spin**

**AQUA**

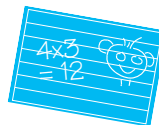
09.15-10.00 **Aqua Aerobics**

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B

Bannatyne's Health Club  
www.bannatyne.co.uk



## BREAK TIME

### Apply for primary places for 2011

PARENTS can now apply for September 2011 primary school places for their children.

The applications, which can include up to three school preferences, can be submitted until the deadline of Saturday, January 15.

Sarah Hohler, Kent County Council cabinet member for education, said: "I would encourage all parents to visit their local primary schools before making their choices."

"There is plenty of time for parents to meet with headteachers and look around schools before selecting their preferred three."

Families can also now apply for places online at [www.kent.gov.uk/ola](http://www.kent.gov.uk/ola)

### Cervical cancer jab at North next year

YEAR eight girls at the North School will receive their HPV immunisations next year in three sessions.

The first will be on January 14, the second on February 16 and the third on July 18.

Human papillomavirus (HPV) is a common cause of infection that usually causes no symptoms. However, some types of virus can lead to cervical cancer. The immunisation programme, which was introduced for girls in the UK in 2008, is aimed at causing a dramatic reduction in the number of cases.



**GET SET GO:** Pupils take part in the Ashford and Maidstone Primary Schools' Cross Country series held at Leeds Castle (left); and (right) the boys celebrate winning their race



# Castle is stunning backdrop for cross country finale

THE finale of the Ashford and Maidstone Primary Schools' Cross Country Series were held at Leeds Castle recently.

More than 850 pupils from 38 schools were cheered on by spectators as the children circumnavigated the castle and moat in an inter-schools competition. The schools' cross country event was the first of its kind at the castle, allowing pupils from the two towns to compete against each other.

The first races of the afternoon were for pupils in Year 3 and 4 who had the opportunity to run close to many of the historic castle's features. Victoria Wallace, Leeds Castle CEO, acted as the official starter and sent the runners off before they swept past the spectators

■ BY ED HILL

on the Cedar Lawn. The 1.2km course also allowed the children to cross the causeway by the Great Water, bound past the Maiden's Tower before making a dash to the finish with the stunning castle as a backdrop.

The pupils were guided and encouraged around the course by members of Ashford Athletics Club and sports leaders from the Norton Knatchbull School.

In the year 3 and 4 races Barming Primary School performed exceptionally well, winning the boys overall team event and finishing second in the girls' competition.

Ashford's Willesborough Junior School matched them by winning the team event for the girls and their boys secured second place.

The course for the Year 5 and 6 pupils also ran in full view of the castle. It had an additional section through parts of the golf course and the beautiful autumnal woodland which extended their run to 1.7km. Kennington Junior School, Ashford and Loose Junior School won the boys and girls events respectively and Roseacre Junior School claimed second spot in both. Ashford primary schools Mersham and Great Chart took the third places.

The successful event was organised by the Mid Kent & Ashford School Sport Partnership who were very grateful to Leeds Castle for staging the school meet.

A full list of the Leeds Castle results and this year's overall series results is available on the MKA Partnership website - [www.mkapartnership.co.uk](http://www.mkapartnership.co.uk).

**SEND your schools news and pictures to [yourashford@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:yourashford@kosmedia.co.uk). You can also upload your video clips of schools events on to [www.yourkenttv.co.uk](http://www.yourkenttv.co.uk)**

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Page 45



# 'We succeed where others failed'

■ BY NICK AMES

NEXT year sees the centenary of the Caldecott Community, an educational establishment which helps some of the most difficult to reach young people in the country.

All are victims of abuse, physical, mental or sexual – sometimes a combination of all three. Yet remarkably, over the last three years not one student has left the care centre at Smeeth, near Ashford, without going on to further education or a work placement.

Pupils have all obtained GCSEs as well – something the centre is very proud of.

Founded in 1911 by philanthropist Leila Rendall, the home is named in honour of children's illustrator Randolph Caldecott.

Richard Harvey is chairman of the centenary committee which is set to organise a service in Canterbury Cathedral

and a garden party with a 1911 theme next summer. Our founder was a true educational pioneer," he said.

"She founded a nursery in St Pancras, London, after seeing how the children of local match factory girls were either left to wander the streets or locked up when their mothers were at work.

"During World War One the facility moved out of London and down to Kent. It is now a home providing residential care for victims of severe abuse and neglect, with a school, therapist and recreational activities."



**SAFE HANDS:** Student Shelley with Amanda Cottrell

The home – an attractive country house with large grounds – has 36 young residents and a further nine day students.

They have gone through foster care and been excluded from mainstream education.

Director of operations Sharon McDermott said: "These are some of the hardest to reach children in the country. They come here from all over the UK and most have been removed from their families because of problems.

"One of the major difficulties is they have failed so many times in the past and we have to cope with that. Some may be very disruptive but staff here have to gain their trust.

"Our staff are so very dedicated and do a marvelous job, sometimes in very difficult circumstances. We have to first gain the trust of the child and that is a major hurdle. But then we can start to move forward and break the cycle of failure."

A series of assemblies of achievement mark a child's progress throughout the school which has students from aged seven to over 16.

To obtain a presentation certificate at one of the meetings, pupils need to have scored an 80 per cent mark in the subject.

Staff emphasise the awards are not just given away. Clive Lee, chief executive, said: "What I am most proud of here is the positive outcome for individual children.

"Pupils who may have come here hugely disruptive can make something of themselves. To see the expression on the face of a young person who has obtained a certificate – maybe for the first time – is a reward in itself. Our motto is 'We succeed where others failed'."



Pictures: MICK GELL

**CENTENARY SUCCESS:** From left, Sam Hopgood, Richard Harvey, Sam Scott, headteacher Sharon McDermott, 12-year-old Marcus, Clive Lee, Angus Fraser and Emily Carrick at the Caldecott Community



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## Antibiotics not for winter colds, patients are warned by doctors

AS THE chilly weather moves in for winter, health chiefs are reminding everyone that antibiotics are useless at battling coughs, colds and flu.

Off-the-shelf pharmacy treatments are better at dealing with common health complaints at this time of year.

But time is often the best healer, with ear infections taking about four days on average to clear up, coughs taking three weeks, sore throats a week and the common cold around a fortnight.

Doctors say colds and flu are caused by viruses, not bacteria, which means using antibiotics when you have a virus may do more harm than good.

It won't cure the infection, stop others from catching it, or make patients feel better. In fact, doctors say it could cause unnecessary side effects.

Last year, more than half a million prescriptions for antibiotics were written for patients in east Kent and antibiotic resistance is one of the world's most pressing public health problems.

GP Dr Simon Dunn said: "We want to ensure the best care is the right care for patients. If you've got flu and cold symptoms, talk to your pharmacist first and get over the counter medicines.

"However, if symptoms get worse you may need to see your GP. For peace of mind, many GPs will now offer a delayed prescription for antibiotics if it is not clear whether the symptoms will go away on their own.



**COLD COMFORT:** But time is often the best healer

"The difference to a normal prescription is that you wait a few days before collecting your medicine, try some self care and if you are feeling better do not collect it at all.

"Antibiotics are really the last resort. They are a key drug in the fight against bacterial infections but over-use will reduce their effectiveness and are less likely to work when patients need them."



# your letters



**LETTERS:** Please send your letters in to us at Yourashford, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS

**TEXT:** Why not text your view/letter/comment for Yourashford to 81800 text ASH followed by a space your name and your view/letter/comment. Messages cost 25p plus standard network charges. Service provided by g8wave London N7.

**EMAIL:** Email us your letters to us at yourashford@kosmedia.co.uk

## YOUR LETTERS



## Maybe buying British should have been law

When the police chose a vehicle sales for that brand go up approximately 20 per cent in that area.

The police and other services in this country should have bought British made vehicles sooner.

Perhaps if they had we might still have Rover, LDV etc and the British jobs that went with them.

Name and address supplied, by email



## American 'interest' is a point well made

How brave of you to come out and say what a huge number of us must be feeling and thinking.

I am force-fed USA, but haven't a clue what has happened in say, Paris, Rome or even the Pas de Calais.

Perhaps KOS could include a European section just to keep us up to speed with the main issues?

Elaine Baines, by email

Don't tell anyone, but I think you just joined the ranks of people falling over themselves to give us your opinion on those irrelevant elections on the other side of the world...

Fair point, Gary

Malcolm Triggs, by email

## Indulgent EU not my ideal neighbour

Your thesis might hold more water if we actually had any say in influencing any decisions made on our behalf in Brussels.

The EU is an undemocratic plutocracy of highly paid, expense clad bureaucrats whose only interest is the self-preservation of their plutocracy.

Our only say is in the election of an MEP who has little or no influence on the decision-making

## yourblogger

As one Kent council comes bottom of the list for recycling, Gary Wright asks do we really care?



ASHFORD Borough Council has been crowned the worst local authority in England for recycling.

I am sorry to hear that on the one hand, but on the other I'm not sure I really care that much.

Anyone who has suffered the stupidity, bureaucracy and stink caused by ill-conceived recycling schemes with its variety of different coloured boxes collected fortnightly must envy the residents of Ashford.

I should confess that I currently live in Ashford borough and I genuinely appreciate the efficiency with which the council makes my rubbish disappear.

I chuck my waste into black sacks and every week, despite rain, gales or blizzards those top blokes turn up in dustcarts and my rubbish disappears.

Yes, you heard right, a weekly collection, no stinking chicken bones hanging around my home for a fortnight.

If the good folk of Tunbridge Wells (45.4 per cent recycled) and Canterbury (45.3) are diligent enough to recycle half, then that gives the people of Ashford more space in landfills plus time to find a system better than those currently on offer.

I talk with some experience here having suffered the fortnightly collection nightmare that Shepway District Council sees fit to burden its ratepayers.

Now don't get me wrong; it was easy to chuck cardboard packaging in one bin, tins in another and plastic cartons in another. Providing that you have the space for all these containers it's not a bad system.

Unfortunately, I failed to enjoy that warm feeling of smug satisfaction that seems to motivate most of the heavily discredited 'green' believers (thanks Channel 4).

But, while living in Shepway, I lost count of the stories of bin men who refused to collect wheelie bins if the lid didn't close, meaning you were left waiting for another two weeks or a trip to the tip in your car.

In Ashford I stumped up getting on for 200 quid a month towards council taxes, and while the council's slice of that is pretty small, all I really want them to do is clear my rubbish – nothing else, thanks.

Kent County Council can run schools and lose millions in Icelandic banks and Kent Police needs to retain cops, cut admin and consider carefully how many £38,000 Jaguar pursuit cars it really needs.

If recycling is so important, and EU imposed targets of 50 per cent within two years seem unavoidable, then let Ashford spend the latest £300,000 handout on employing people to sort through the collected rubbish.

Don't make me do it. I'm happy to pay someone who can recognise the difference between PVC and PTFE plastic.

We are on the brink of stinging public sector cuts and while I have always been against local authority non-jobs, if my council wants to spend my money employing recyclers, you have my full support.

There must be a better way to recycle that does not involve stinking wheelie bins containing two-week old food which is the result of knee-jerk green initiatives.

I believe Ashford Borough Council, by taking its time, can show the way.

If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering contact the news editor, Gareth Arnold, on 01303 817025 or email him on the details above. If you want to be the next Ashford blogger then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of around 550 words) and email it to the editor. And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town log-on to [www.yourashford.co.uk](http://www.yourashford.co.uk).

process in Brussels. It is an over-expensive, cash wasting, self-centered, over-important, arrogant, corrupt organisation of which we should cease to be a member.

Whatever else it may be the US practices a form of democracy utterly alien to the EU.

No thanks, I will continue to maintain a greater interest in what goes on 'over the pond' than I do over the Channel.

Peter Reynolds



## Bomb was a threat to services as well

It astounds me that a member of the public who obviously has no experience of the work emergency services carry out feels able to post such damaging remarks with no thought to those involved during that terrible day.

As a previous poster had so rightly put it, there is no use for a

dead rescuer, and history has shown that patterns of bombings are increasingly becoming multiple events (Madrid, London) and more chillingly, targeted towards those that may come to our aid.

The attempted Tiger Tiger bombings in London had secondary devices set up at the site of the rendezvous point for emergency services.

We have set procedures for dealing with major incidents of this nature, and to detract from these courses of action would result in mass panic and collapse of control at the scene, with possibly even committing fellow rescuers to their deaths.

The aim is to do the most for the most under the difficult circumstances and until specialist teams have evaluated the scene and deemed that there are no other hazards to the rescuers (chemical, biological, radiological, explosives), then full efforts can be made to deal with the immediate 'hot-zone'.

I fear the outcry against major incident planners would have been far worse had emergency crews committed to the scenes and lost their lives through secondary devices or CBRN materials.

Corporate manslaughter trials would have filled the courts for a good few years after the events, that's for sure.

No major incident runs perfectly. Even with the best planning and practice-runs in the world, things are sure to go wrong due to the

random and unpredictable nature of them.

Let's just trust those who put themselves forward at the front-line on the day and hope that the despicable people who attempt to reign terror on our streets don't 'spice-up' their devices with much more terrifying components in addition to explosive.

Steve Bourne, by email

## School gathering is one not to be missed

Due to a very successful gathering last year of old Canterbury school friends I have organised another get-together on Saturday, January 29, 2011, in a local pub.

So I am hoping to reach those out of the loop and who missed the first event.

We want anyone connected with what was known as the Westbere Crowd, and who may have attended Canterbury Tech/Art College, Canterbury Tech School Girls Simon Langton Girls/Boys, Barton Court; drank in the Seven Stars, Olive Branch, Old City, Jolly Miller, Allberrys, Quines etc; or enjoyed the music at St Thomas Hall, Leascliffe Hall Folkestone, Westgate Hall and maybe attended parties at Westbere Village Hall.

For those interested, please call Andy Matthews on 07808 590 370 for details.

Andrew Matthews

## MP's weighty issue over foreign lorries

In written PQs appearing on the Commons order paper (last Thursday) I asked:

"What estimate has been made of the incidence of the involvement of (a) foreign-registered and (b) all heavy goods vehicles in road traffic accidents in the latest period for which figures are available, and if the Secretary of State for Transport will bring forward proposals for the inspection of foreign road haulage vehicles entering and leaving the UK."

"I believe that we shall find that there is a disproportionate involvement of foreign lorries in road traffic accidents and that that record is due in part to sight lines, certainly, but also due to the condition of the vehicles. It is already a fact that at present foreign trucks do considerable damage to our roads while making no contribution to their upkeep."

"They arrive laden with EU duty-paid fuel and depart before refilling. In the interim they not only cause wear and tear on roads that they do not pay for but, more importantly, they become involved in accidents involving damage to other vehicles, injury and sadly, on occasions, death."

"Clearly Kent, as the main gateway county, bears the brunt of the problem, but it is a national issue as well."

"I await the Minister's answers with great interest; I believe that the time has come to introduce a much more rigorous inspection regime to ensure that all vehicles entering the UK are roadworthy and carry appropriate mirrors for left-hand drive use and I also want reconsideration given to the application of a 'Britdisc' road tax."

"I would also like to see departure checks to ensure the drivers of vehicles that have been involved in accidents do not leave our jurisdiction until cases have been heard and/or insurance claims settled."

Thanet North MP, Roger Gale

## Commuters taken for a ride by coalition

I was pleased to see that the Government's increased cap on rail pricing has not gone unnoticed.

As a London commuter already struggling to keep my head above water I find this 37 per cent increase in rail fares over the next three years to be simply disgusting.

The article cites a national poll by the Campaign for Better Transport which showed that "74 per cent of commuters were likely to switch support away from parties that agreed to an increase" – you can rest assured that I will be one of these commuters.

The Government are simply relying on the fact that most commuters don't have a choice but to use the train service, whatever the cost. The opportunism of the Con-Dem coalition fails us again.

Name and address supplied



# Revealing teachers' salaries a lesson in futility, says union

UNION leaders have hit out at Government plans to publish teachers' salaries, qualifications and sickness rates in an attempt to improve classroom standards.

The Department for Education revealed this week that schools will be forced to publish more information than ever before so parents can make better-informed judgements about where to send their children.

## Headline-grabbing

Individual teachers will not be named but the unions argue that in some small schools it may be easy to identify which teacher is which.

"I can't see the point of all this; it's just headline-grabbing," said John Walder, secretary of the Kent division of the National Union of Teachers (NUT).

"It's been a feature of politics since the late Thatcher era that the Government should always be seen to be doing things, even when it's not needed.

"That's led to a massive avalanche of new measures that have been bedevilling schools ever since.

"Parents want to see that their child's school is successful, but the fact is that what they're

■ BY STEVE KNIGHT

really interested in is whether or not their child is happy.

"Regimes where teachers are put under the cosh make for unhappy teachers and unhappy kids. When one side of the equation is put under that sort of pressure, the other side will feel it too."

The proposals form part of the DfE business plan, which also spells out coalition plans to reform the central contract dictating teachers' pay and conditions.

Other statistics due to be published include the amount of money spent per child and how many achieve new-style measures charting progress in basic subjects at ages five and 11.

"We do not see how publishing swathes of statistics on how many teachers caught the flu off their pupils, how many A-levels the staff have and what they are paid will reduce bureaucracy," said Emma Sivyer, South East regional officer for the education professionals' union Voice.

"This is information overload. What is the point? Do the public really want to know all this?"

"We fear the Government wants to bring to an end the national system for teachers' pay



**POINTLESS:** Union says plans to publish information on teachers will put them under further pressure

and conditions – a system that has worked well in ensuring fairness and transparency without compromising individuals' details."

Other measures spelled out in the business plan include a new 'readiness to progress' assessment for children to ensure they are ready to start primary and secondary school, and the introduction of a new National Curriculum by September 2013.

The 'nappy curriculum' setting out targets children must hit before their fifth birthday will also be less bureaucratic.

## Housing cuts to force poorer residents out

HOUSING benefit claimants could be forced to move out of wealthier towns on Kent's commuter belt as a result of the Government's cap on handouts.

A report by the Chartered Institute of Housing (CIH) revealed that in the next decade people relying on local housing allowance may have to look for cheaper accommodation in less affluent towns.

It comes just a fortnight after Thanet North MP Roger Gale raised concerns coastal areas could be hit with an influx of London dole claimants unable to afford expensive city rents once housing benefit is capped next April.

Industry experts at CIH believe for Kent's wealthier in-land towns it could be the reverse, with claimants moving away.

Ashford and Maidstone were highlighted as places that would be 'off limits' for private rented sector tenants, claiming housing benefits in the next ten years.

Towns on commuter belts were outlined as areas where claimants may be unable to afford to live.

The report added: "If rental inflation is at five per cent, within 20 years almost all rental market areas in the South East will be affected by the caps."

Under the changes, handouts will be capped at £400 a week for a four-bedroom house, £340 for a three-bedroom property, £290 for two bedrooms and £250 for a one-bedroom property.

Kent's Tory MPs welcomed the move.

Laura Sandys (Thanet South) said: "The current situation has fundamentally distorted housing in my area.

"Our system is broken. Those who want to work know that work does not pay.

"Those who work get less than those who claim and those who do not work often receive the most."



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# 'Make most of opportunities'

FORMER Conservative leader Lord Howard says the axing of half a million UK public sector jobs is a golden opportunity for Kent businesses.

He told the inaugural Archant KOS Media Business Week Live show the cuts, announced in last month's comprehensive spending review (CSR), would see much of the lost work switching to the private sector through outsourcing from both central and local government.

He told delegates: "We are already seeing remarkable decisions taken by some local authorities who have, in effect, said, 'we're going to decide what should be done and we're going to finance what should be done, but we're not actually going to do it ourselves - we're going to look at people who can do it more efficiently'."

The former MP for Folkestone and Hythe, who stood down this year and now sits in the Lords as Baron Howard of Lympne,

complimented organisers on the timing of the event at the County Showground, near Maidstone, exactly three weeks after the CSR.

He said he knew many firms had held back on crucial decisions until the CSR, but added: "Every challenge presents an opportunity and you will have been working out how you can make the most of those opportunities. This event is designed to enable you to see how you can translate those opportunities into success."

Conference presenter Julie Maddocks then asked Lord Howard about Prime Minister David Cameron's Big Society vision, which some have dismissed as PR and spin.

"It's certainly not," he responded. "It's a recognition of the important role organisations and people outside government can play in delivering the kind of society we want to live in."

"The Big Society provides opportunities that maybe business hasn't had before."



GUEST SPEAKER:

Lord Howard makes his Business Week Live opening address at Detling

## Business show helps county look to future

OUR first-ever Business Week Live offered a unique opportunity for Kent's hard-pressed business community to run a health check as it plans for 2011.

The diagnosis was good. Despite the coalition Government's recent comprehensive spending review and a rash of conflicting readings from economic barometers like property prices and the stock market, those attending the show felt positive about prospects.

After hearing a welcome from Lord Howard they also appreciated tips and advice from conference sessions and a clinic run by the Kent Business School.

One of the speakers, Maidstone-based management guru Neil Annis, of ThinkGap, said: "I go to all the trade shows, but I have to say that the quality of the people you have attracted here is superb. I have made contacts and secured leads I couldn't have hoped to get through the usual channels."

The show was arranged across 12 business zones, enabling visitors to quickly find the 128 stands they wished to target.

One firm even chose the show to launch itself and a new product for the UK market.

John Lineham, MD of Dartford-based CleanTeck, said: "The show was perfect timing for us to launch our range of smart fluids we have sourced from Germany."

■ BY STEVE LOADER

"With so many applications - from impermeable coatings for mobile phones and laptops to protecting the fabric of buildings - taking a stand allowed us to demonstrate to the many other companies and visitors."

Archant KOS Media's commercial director and organiser of the show, Christine Davidson, said: "We couldn't have hoped for a better launch and the reaction from exhibitors and visitors was overwhelmingly positive. Timing it soon after the Government's spending review, and at the budget planning stage for most businesses played a crucial part, I'm sure. But people appreciated the format - a unique mix of informative conference speakers and panels, with workshops, a drop-in clinic and a relaxed environment, providing plenty of opportunity to network, renew contacts and look at co-operative ventures."

"And the proof of the pudding? With just shy of 1,000 attendees and exhibitors booking their stand already for next year's event, business confidence is clearly building and so is the appetite in the market for a vibrant new event like Business Week Live."

"I would like to thank all of our supporters, partners, speakers, exhibitors and visitors for their involvement and look forward to working with them on Business Week Live 2011."

## Using networking sites to best effect

THERE has been a huge growth in businesses using social networking sites such as Facebook, MySpace, Bebo and Twitter over the last few years and that was a development explored at Business Week Live.

Experts say many companies are not aware of the benefits of online communication messaging.

Dan Maudhub, of Maidstone-based Wonderful Creative Agency, said there were still misconceptions about online sites.

Mt Maudhub, one of the most popular speakers at an event which attracted experts from many fields, said: "Business can get so much more out of social-networking sites."

"In recent years they have had an enormous impact and we have seen a great change in the way business is conducted."

"They affect the relationship between a company and its clients, customer service and the two-way conversations which takes place in any business relationship."

Mr Maudhub said he can offer advice from his own experience and knowledge of the social networking landscape to those who want to find out how spending time on analysis and research can be of huge benefit.

"Events like Business Week Live enable ideas to be put across - businesses can learn from each other and that is so positive."

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## Women Seeking

**ROSEMARY** 62, caring Christian, professional, divorced, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382496

**GORGEOUS** tall brunette, blue eyes, many fun interests looking for someone special to enjoy fun/new adventures with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352713

**SIMPLY** fabulous funky redhead, 39, down to earth, fit and active, seeks laid back, passionate guy to share red wine, good conversation, maybe more. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352711

**EXOTIC** curvy female, excellent cook, fit and active seeking mature white male to pamper and be looked after in return. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352705

**ATTRACTIVE** blue eyed blonde, 41, no ties, seeks someone easygoing and fun who can make life a bit more interesting. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352703

**PETITE** blonde, 39, seeks tall genuine fun to be with male to be happy and let her hair down with. ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352677

**PRETTY** happy go lucky lady, no ties, seeks tall, slim, attractive guy with big heart as well as personality for fun friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352675

**QUIET** smart, brown eyed lady, likes meals out and dancing, WLTM laidback mature man to share laughter/TLC. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352673

**CURVY** brunette, loving but a bit of a dreamer looking to share special times together with likeminded easygoing male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352671

**ATTRACTIVE** fun, friendly blonde, seeks fun guy. Sutton. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382502

**FRIENDLY** serene, black, attractive female, nice smile, 37, slim, adores blue sky, music, theatre, reading, seeks genuine, caring gent, 36-49, N/S to share life and laughter. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333815

**STEVE** East Grinstead, met at Parsons Pig through ad, moonlit beaches, I made a mistake, please leave your number. Crawley. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351677

**TINY** attractive fun loving lady, likes to cook romantic meals, music and dancing, WLTM medium built likeminded male for loving LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352119

**ADORABLE** beauty, curvy, caring, down to earth, trained lawyer, seeks good man for friendship, companionship, maybe more. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351337

**COME** live with me. Medic, petite, stunning, long hair, seeks very rich, tactile, generous gent. I will care for you forever. Essex. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351333

**PENNY** slim, sporty, attractive, excellent company, enjoys the outdoors, cycling, walks, sailing, theatre, travel, seeks intelligent, likeminded gent for friendship, maybe more. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351273

**GOOD** looking, slim, funny, lovable female, 24, many interests, looking for similar genuine male for cuddles and cosy nights in/out. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352121

**VERY** attractive feminine working girl, great personality, loves to laugh seeks well built, experienced guy for quality times together. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352127

**HEATHER** 47, seeks kind, caring, thoughtful, trustworthy male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382290

**LOVELY** Estonia lady, N/S, 59, likes music, travel, theatre, walks, seeks male, 60-70 for friendship and to share interests. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351133

**VIVACIOUS** blonde, big eyes, friendly, outgoing and fun seeking outward going happy male for fun and TLC. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351381

**BEAUTIFUL** bubbly blue eyed blonde, full of life looking for similar extrovert male to put some fun back in her life. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350725

**ATTRACTIVE** 59yr old lady, likes music, sports, cooking, travel, seeks caring male, 60-70 to share interests and friendship. Crawley. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351817

**VOLUPTUOUS** blue eyed red head, artistic and good with her hands looking for someone intelligent and witty for fun, friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352087

**CHATTY** outgoing female, likes music, country pubs, seeks tall slim outgoing male to share quality time together. Possible LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352089

**EXTREMELY** attractive, slim brunette, 38, feminine and very romantic, seeks tall, loyal male who knows how to treat a lady. ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352091

**OUTGOING** dark haired beauty, curves but definitely in all the right places, fit and active seeks sincere male for good times. Maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352095

**BEAUTIFUL** slim, Oriental babe, 22, seeks older, generous guy 65 plus who knows how to pamper. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348545

**STUNNING** ex model, curvy, long legs seeks tall well built guy relax with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349005

**SAM** attractive, outgoing with blonde spiky hair, green eyes, lonely, romantic and in need of some male company. Age/looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349927

**STUNNING** brown eyed brunette, funny and vivacious searching for fun and romance with unattached male. ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349923

**GILL** slim stylish blue eyed blonde loving and caring, WLTM down to earth guy who knows how to treat his lady. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349921

**SUZANNE** 35, beautiful blonde, seeks male for chats and a relaxing glass of wine anytime. ACA, status unimportant. City area. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 342527

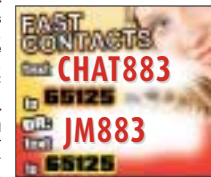
**HAPPY** go lucky blue eyed blonde, 38, just wants to make someone happy seeks similar kind male for a loving relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347347

**TINY** blonde, blue eyes, lovely smile, romantic at heart, seeks really nice man for romance, possible LTR. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348999

**LORRAINE** 5ft 8ins, slim, size 10, long dark curly hair, green eyes, likes meals out, pubs, seeks male with GSOH. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348857

**STUNNING** blonde, feels like is for living looking for her Mr Right, 45-55, who can make her feel special. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350723

**CURVY** blonde, big blue eyes, many interests, WLTM genuine male to make her laugh and brighten up her day. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350721



**STUNNING** slim green eyed blonde, fun to be with, likes nights out, looking for that special someone. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350691

**TALL** attractive nurse, dark hair, blue eyes looking to meet someone young and fit for out duty fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350719

**LOVELY** curvy, extrovert, green eyed blonde, seeks gorgeous, easygoing, fun male to share cuddles, laughs and TLC. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350697

**ATTRACTIVE** vivacious, curvy blonde beautiful brown eyes, many interests, looking for someone nice to cuddle up on the sofa and share good wine with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350695

**ATTRACTIVE** vivacious lady seeks good looking male to share travel, romantic nights out and lots of TLC. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350693

**LOVELY** curvy brunette, adventurous and feminine seeks intelligent male to share the fun side of life together. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349003

**ATTRACTIVE** affectionate, outgoing blue eyed blonde, 42, seeks warm hearted, kind male for good conversation, fun times and who knows. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351351

**ENERGETIC** big hearted brunette likes countryside, looking for a man to love and be cherished in return. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351345

**LOVELY** green eyed brunette likes long romantic walks, seeks tall, outgoing male with GSOH to light up her life. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351343

**TALL** slim blonde, 46, loves to travel looking for someone genuine and honest to share cosy evenings in with a bottle of wine, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351341

**RED** haired rock chick, loves fast cars, seeking tall, dark, well groomed male for fun in the fast lane, friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351393

**ATTRACTIVE** curvy blue eyed blonde, 39, likes pubs/clubs, seeks loving romantic male for a special relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351391

**CURVY** brown eyed brunette, fed up and lonely, likes nice gentleman, staying in with glass wine, eating out, walks by the sea, seeks similar. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351389



## Men Seeking

**MALE** 32, blue eyes, blond hair, seeks young female, 18-40, caring, outgoing for socialising and romance. Bognor Regis. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382682

**KIND** warm hearted 6ft 2ins, well travelled, compassionate, romantic male, 48, seeks loving, passionate, romantic lady for LTR. Storrington. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352793

**ROGER** 68, 5ft 11ins, N/S, romantic, GSOH, dependable, sincere, easygoing, seeks slim-medium build, attractive female for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352669

**6FT** 2ins male, slim, N/S, brown hair/eyes, average looks, likes nights in/out, country pubs, animals, seeks similar lady for LTR. East Sussex. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382644

**MICK** 52, 6ft 1ins, honest, reliable, loyal, seeks similar female, 40-50. Brighton. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382632

**GOOD** looking Asian male, professional, honest, reliable, fun, likes sports, travel, seeks attractive female for possible LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352565

**YOUNG** 60yr old male, likes cats, cooking, seeks female, 54-70 to share life. Bexhill. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382618

**TALL** mature, attractive male, seeks slim, petite, Asian/Oriental/Latino lady for fun LTR. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352511

**FIT** professional male, slim, dark hair, GSOH, seeks attractive, medium build female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382608

**LOVING** 38yr old female, honest, romantic, loving, caring, likes swimming, meals out, nights in, seeks male, 45-55 for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350775

**OLD** fashioned girl, 49, fun, friendly, seeks mature male for fun times, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382192

**KAREN** 51, smoker, many interests, seeks country loving guy, 35-45 who is fun, loving and caring. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382050

**LYN** young 50yr old lady, divorced, attractive, size 16, black hair, green eyes, no ties, dog, likes walks, meals out, nights in, socialising, seeks gent, 40-55. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350023

**SUE** early 60's, black hair, brown eyes, seeks male, 59-63 for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 346929

**FEMALE** 42, stunning blonde nurse looking to share a bottle of good wine, relax and whatever follows with a tall professional male. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347345



**WORTHING** male, 38, seeks N/S lady, slim-medium build for walks, restaurants or days out etc. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382598

**IS** it you I am dreaming of? Male N/S, 5ft 8ins, likes music, films, seeks attractive, genuine female, 30-40 to share enjoyable times, maybe more. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352401

**ATTRACTIVE** fit male, 35, seeks female, 25-48 for fun relationship, Uckfield. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382482

**PASSIONATE** male, early 50's, 6ft, dark hair, stocky, easygoing, happy go lucky, no baggage, seeks warm matured female in need of TLC. Poole. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352615

**MODERN** slim, late 50's male, honest, genuine, seeks lady for lots of fun times. Dorset. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352607

**TROPHY** girlfriend sought by good looking, successful Windsor man, must be attractive and like nice clothes and sexy shoes. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352305

**FUNNY** chatty 44yr old male, seeks special lady for special times. Cheam. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382534

**GENUINE** male, 39, fit, handsome, seeks female, 18-30 for fun, laughs and good times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352235

**SINGLE** 40yr old male, sporty, dark features, good looking, seeks lonely female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352177



**CARING** white male, 61, N/S, many interests, seeks romantic, understanding black lady, 50-65, size 18 plus for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351255

**MALE** seeks special female, 36-46 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350315

**43YR** old single dad, fit, slim, 6ft, dark hair, hazel eyes, tattoos, likes motor bikes, seeks gorgeous female, under 40 for LTR. Croydon. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382262

**EARLY** 60's male, 5ft 8ins, blue eyes, GSOH, likes most things, seeks similar fun loving female, 55 plus for good times, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349285

**TALL** dark haired male, blue eyes, good looking, seeks attractive Princess with GSOH. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382258

**CARING** affable man, teacher, 56, likes arts, rock, travel, seeks interesting, intelligent childless woman, for LTR and adventures. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347051

**BRIAN** 47, 5ft 9ins, medium build, attractive, N/S, likes pubs, meals out, cinema, seeks attractive, white female, 35-47 for LTR. East London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351499

**SINGLE** professional Indian male, 5ft 7ins, medium build, attractive, N/S, vegetarian, 50, young out, seeks female for relationship. Harrow. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351513

**MALE** 40, likes animals, walks, seeks female for happiness. Newbury. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351521

**EASYGOING** male, 38, 6ft, sensitive, romantic, seeks special lady to share great times together. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351617

**GENUINE** guy 53, 6ft, seeks younger lady, 20-35 to spoil, pamper and have fun. Portsmouth. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351647

**ASIAN** male, good looking, 53, seeks female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352059

**WRITER** 38, seeks intelligent female, 25-45, looks unimportant. West London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382238

**BARRY** likes travel, culture, seeks fun, attractive female who is up for a laugh. Portsmouth. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352165

**ATTRACTIVE** fit, mature male, seeks Asian/Oriental female for relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382370

**SUGAR** daddy available. Pete 57, 5ft 9ins, short dark hair, hazel eyes, own business, likes travel, seeks female to look after and spoil. Brighton. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382376

**TALL** male, dark hair, good looking, smoker, likes sports, cinema, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382458

**PAUL** 5ft 11ins, 13st, fair hair, blue eyes, clean shaven, smart, muscular, fit, active, likes travel, music, theatre, cinema, meals out, seeks mature female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382466

**YOUNG** 69yr old male, likes socialising, meals out, music, animals, seeks lady for company, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382090

**SINGLE** male, 60, medium build, kind, caring, GSOH, likes music, walks, places of interest. WLTM lady up to 60. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350043

**JAMES** late 40's, likes walks, socialising, cinema, meals out, theatre, teatotal, seeks female, 40-50 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350545

**CRAIG** 25, likes wrestling, theatre, church, socialising, seeks lady, 18-40 preferably ex model for LTR. Redhill. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382134

**45YR** old male, likes music, festivals, seeks female, 38-48 for fun, friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350753

**37YR** old male, N/S, no ties, seeks local female, 39-60 for loving, caring relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350745

**TALL** active, light hearted guy 55, seeks female, 43 or under for LTR. Affection and loyalty guaranteed. Croydon. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351317

**WHITE** male, young looks, new to area, seeks female for fun and friendship, maybe more. Hastings. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382330

**MICHAEL** 53, professional, GSOH, seeks female, 35-50. Crawley. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351303

**MALE** 50, 5ft 10ins, likes nights out, cinema, music, seeks fun loving, outgoing female, 40-50 for friendship, maybe more. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351243

**EVEN** better than chocolate? Alan, tall, young looking 45, humorous, intelligent, genuine, passionate, seeks slim female for love and sharing. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351187

**FATHER** Christmas, generous, seeks young, adventurous, curvy female, up to 23 for discreet fun and friendship. Brighton. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382280

**PROFESSIONAL** male, 55, slim, 5ft 11ins, divorced, N/S, likes travel, sports, walks, seeks slim, fit, N/S, genuine female, 48-59. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350257

**6FT** male, 24, brown hair, blue eyes, slim, athletic, outgoing, likes clubs, bars, sports, gym, seeks female for fun and friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349981

**HONEST** reliable, handsome, black male, 47, affectionate, seeks mature, trendy, white female, 42-62 for going out, laughter and life. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350653

## Gay Seeking

**YOUNG** 60yr old male, likes cats, cooking, seeks female, 54-70, CD/TV to share life. Bexhill. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382616

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**DISCREET** gay male, attractive, 5ft 6ins, N/S, easygoing, submissive nature, seeks older assertive male for fun and friendship. Portsmouth. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352387

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## Village pub offers good food at a great price

### ■ The Walnut Tree

THE Walnut Tree is a traditional village pub with great character. It has been a feature in the village of Aldington popular with locals and visitors alike for many years.

The pub has received five stars in pub rating guide Scores on the Doors for food and hygiene.

Manager Karen Barrett, who has been there for nine years, said: "We run a senior citizens day every Tuesday, but as they were so popular they are now doing them on Thursdays as well."

The menus do vary, and homemade food features highly on the menu. And with starters from £1.25, Main dishes from £3.25 and desserts £1.25, the pub has earned a reputation for value as well.

They are available from midday until 2pm and there is always a choice of at least four starters, five main courses and four desserts.

A Sunday roast is served from midday until 8pm, costing £6.50 for adults, and the very popular big pig costs £7.95. There is a choice of five different meats.

Another favourite is the sizzling grill stones which are a speciality of the pub allowing you to cook your steak at your table.

The traditional bar with pool table and dart board and the winter open log fire remain



very popular. The last Thursday of every month is special offers and the last Friday of every month, the pub has live retro music.

On November 26, there will be live music from "What the funk?" who will be playing songs from Madness and ska numbers.

On Boxing Day, from 4pm, the pub has a

disco, and on New Year's Eve it opens at 8pm with a complementary buffet and no entry fee.

Diners can also have the pre-Christmas menu available until December 23. Two courses cost £10.99 or three courses £12.99

The Walnut Tree, Forge Hill, Aldington, Ashford, Kent, TN25 7DT, [www.walnuttree.com](http://www.walnuttree.com). Telephone: 01233 720298



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Main course: Mixed grill: rump steak, gammon steak, pork steak, two sausages, onion rings and sautéed mushrooms. £9.95

Dessert: White chocolate cheesecake. £3.25  
Telephone: 01233 662226

#### Farriers Arms

Starter: Pork and rabbit terrine

Main course: Duo of Kent and Sussex beef served with rosti and creamed cabbage

Dessert: Tasting platter selection of mini desserts

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## LIVE & LOCAL

### Church to host choir

THE Snowdon Colliery Male Voice Choir will sing at Canterbury Baptist Church in Canterbury on Friday, November 19.

The choir will be joined by DeJaVu choir from The Netherlands called 'Déjà vu' for this show to raise funds for the church in St George's Place, Canterbury.

Tickets are priced £5 and available by calling 01227 760824 or on the door.

### Christmas fair goodies

A CHRISTMAS fair takes place at St Mary's Church in Willesborough, Ashford on Saturday, November 27.

It lasts from 10am to 2pm and will include stalls selling books, cakes, crafts, produce, plants and raffle tickets.

There is free parking, refreshments and also a raffle.

### Three day folk festival

THE First Margate Folk Festival will take place at the Lifeboat Ale And Cider House, Margate.

The Market Street venue will host a variety of acts over three days, November 18, 19 and 20. The Bubble Band, Pierre Vincent, Phil Martin Mike Deavin, The Sally Ironmonger Duo are some of those performing.

Visit Facebook, searching "Lifeboat and Ale Cider House Margate" for details.

### Enjoy sounds of Africa

KASAI Masai return to Ashford bringing the traditional sound of remote equatorial African villages to Kent.

The show takes place at North School, Essella Road, Ashford, on Saturday, November 20. Tickets are £8 adult, £5 concessions and children go free.

Call 01233 629 165 or book online at [www.equatorfestival.com](http://www.equatorfestival.com).

### Gallery's Menage a Trois

THREE local artists bring a colourful array of work to the Margate Harbour Arm gallery for the penultimate exhibition of the year.

Menage a Trois features the work of Ramsgate's Patricia Jones, John Newton and Denis Smith. The free exhibition runs until Monday, November 22, 10am to 4pm, Thursday to Sunday.

### Agatha Christie staged

SENIOR Dover Youth Theatre students had a production of Appointment With Death by Agatha Christie.

It takes place at the Roundhouse Theatre at the Dover Discovery Centre, on Thursday, November 25 and Friday, November 26 at 7.30pm.

Tickets are £8 and £5. Book tickets on 01304 202544 or call 01304 202544.

### Jazz up your evening

THE Blue Rhythm Kings, led by Malcolm Walton will guarantee an evening of uplifting and classy 1920's traditional jazz at the Horsebridge Arts and Community Centre in Whitstable on Friday, November 19.

Tickets are £8, £6 concessions. Call the box office on 01227 281174 to book up.

Doors open at 7pm and there is a bar.



The Strawbs are ready to rock you back to the swinging Sixties when they play their original material at The Astor Theatre in Deal

SINGER-songwriter and guitarist Dave Cousins, who fronts rock band The Strawbs, is set to rock his home town on Saturday, adding a twinge of folk to the mix.

Dave's local theatre, The Astor in Deal is the venue for his show and he says – unusually – he is really looking forward to playing locally with a full band, playing their original, influential material.

"Sometimes I can be apprehensive. It may be that the night after the show I'm having a cup of coffee reading the paper and someone who was there the previous night will remember me on stage waving my arms about," he said.

"It can make me feel like two different people.

"But this time we have such a tight band and such great material I am really looking forward to it."

Dave's career is one steeped in rock credentials.

He started his career in the folk clubs of the 1960s, once memorably playing support to then newcomers The Rolling Stones.

"There were shows on Eel Pie Island in the Thames in Twickenham," he said.

"The Stones would be playing furiously, people would be jumping on top of one another to get a glimpse of them. The crowd was wild.

"Then in the interval we'd go on and do a set of bluegrass music. It went down well, though. The crowd liked it.

"But they never said much to us – all I remember is guitarist Brian Jones coming up and saying 'Like your music, man'."

Now in his mid 60s, Dave has also just completed a book showing how he came to write his songs.

Secrets, Stories, Songs talks about many of the factors that inspired Mr Cousins's huge volume of work.

Much of it revolves around the countryside

near his home town of Deal.

Features include the relics of the Duke of Wellington in Walmer church, the seashore, the harvest and the sculpture of a Battle of Britain pilot looking out to sea on the cliffs at Capel-le-Ferne.

Dave has also just finished filming part of a tribute TV show to Byrds legend Roger McGuinn, which will feature rock legends such as Bruce Springsteen and Tom Petty.

But it was another US star who got him

interested in contemporary music.

He said: "I listened to a lot of folk music and went to see Bob Dylan in 1965. He was playing Mr Tambourine Man and that was inspiring."

Another star who crossed his path was David Bowie.

"He used to come around for a cup of tea and his then manager Tony Visconti told me all about this revolutionary new look David was getting into," he said.

"I knew his band The Hype – then they started calling themselves The Spiders From Mars. On stage in an outrageous Japanese-style costume – I was thinking, is that really David?"

"Anyway, we needed a B-side, so as a joke I started calling us Ciggy Barlusc And The Whales From Venus."

"I wrote a song which mentioned David, a bit of a parody and all meant in good fun, but he never spoke to me after that."

Dave had met folk-singer Sandy Denny in 1967 and she recorded an album with The Strawbs that has recently been re-released as a remastered CD.

And the band continued to play throughout the 70s until Cousins called it a day as the 80s dawned.

"We were playing all over America, always our best market," he said.

"We'd headline and then support acts like The Eagles, Santana, Frank Zappa and Lynyrd Skynyrd in front of massive crowds.

"But then I felt it had gone as far as it could, so I started to get into running radio stations."

A meeting with former bandmates a few years ago brought his career full-circle and Mr Cousins currently plays as part of an acoustic trio and in full band mode.

### THE STRAWBS

Saturday, November 20  
Astor Theatre, Deal





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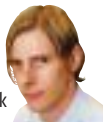


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## RAILWAY SWING BAND

Wednesday, November 17, Granville Theatre, Ramsgate

A NIGHT of swinging big band music from a mixture of professional musicians and serious amateur musicians, comes to the Granville.

The Railway Swing Band, consisting mainly of players living with a 20-mile radius of Deal, aged from 16 to over 80, are proud to have built up a local reputation by raising money for local charities.

The band formed in 1992 in the back room of the Railway Public House, Walmer, and still rehearses on Wednesday evenings, but now at Pfizer's Social Club, near Sandwich.

The band plays a mixture of most of the great Swing era – Ellington, Goodman, Basie, Miller, Kenton, Herman, with a few more modern compositions.

A standard big band consists of 17 players, but the RSB has 17 saxophones, eight trumpets, eight trombones, drums, bass, piano and two guitars, plus up to three vocalists.

East Kent is extremely fortunate to have them performing for local charities. Visit [www.railwayswingband.co.uk](http://www.railwayswingband.co.uk) for more information.

Tickets are £8.50 each. Call the box office 01843 591750.



## KISSING SID JAMES

Sunday, November 14, Memorial Theatre, St Peter's Road, Broadstairs

DEAL-BASED theatre group The Yellow Brick Road Theatre Company bring this Robert Farquhar play to Broadstairs.

It follows a weekend away for stationery salesman Eddie and croupier Crystal.

Having been on one date previously, they decide to spend a weekend in a B&B by the sea.

However, disaster after disaster follows them on their trip.

Awkward love scenes, Sean Connery fantasies and a drunken night on the pier all lead to revelations regarding previous marriages, living with mother and the story behind the title.

The play contains strong language and adult themes, so is not suitable for the under 16s.

The play will be performed at 7pm, and tickets cost £7 for members, and £9 non-members.

Seats are bookable in advance at the theatre box office on 0845 2626263.

Whilst the 24-hour booking rule applies to non-members of Sarah Thorne Theatre Club, seats can be reserved by telephone or at [info@sarahthorne-theatreclub.co.uk](mailto:info@sarahthorne-theatreclub.co.uk).

Visit [www.sarahthorne-theatreclub.co.uk](http://www.sarahthorne-theatreclub.co.uk) for more details about the play.

## BRENDON BURNS

Saturday, November 27,  
Gulbenkian Theatre, Canterbury



THE Australian comedian was the winner of the If Comedy Award in 2007, and is touring with his show Y'know Love 'n' God n Metaphysics.

Take a comic preamble through the Edinburgh award winner's brilliantly insane mind. This show has a giant twist in it's tail. And, as always with Brendon... nothing is as it first seems.

He talks about being single and not enjoying it, his failed sexual encounters with women, as well as the political and moral choices we seem to be given in Western society.

He also tackles the subject of atheism with his personal take on spirituality, quantum physics, pantheism (nature and God being one and the same), sentience, accountability and evolution marrying them all in a conclusive human need for allegory to explain it all.

Brendon has also been hosting the new stand-up show FHM Stand Up Hero this autumn, which is a search to find up-and-coming new comics.

The show is not suitable for children and starts at 7.45pm. Tickets are £15.

Call the box office on 01227 769075 to book.



## CHATBACK COMEDY CLUB

Tuesday, November 23, The Parrot pub, Church Lane, Canterbury



SET up by former University of Kent students Sam Gardner and Lucy Danser, who wanted to spice up the comedy scene in Kent, Chatback is back.

It aims to take the atmosphere and talent of the London stand-up comedy circuit to Canterbury, with local funny-men and women also featuring.

A fresh collection of the most hilarious award-winning and up-and-coming talent is being promised for the new run, over the winter season.

Chatback's first Knockout November night features Trevor Lock, compere Paul Sweeney, Tom Goodliffe (left), Steve Aruni and Henry the singing hoover, Toby Muresianu and local comedian Carysnia Williams.

Lucy said: "The nights are well-attended. We've been sold out for the last six months of gigs. They're packed full of strange and hilarious comedians with all sorts of weird and wonderful talents encompassing singing hoovers, magic tricks and the observational stand up. We hope to see everyone there this season."

Tickets are £6/£5 each and the comedy starts at 8pm. Visit [www.chatbackcomedy.com](http://www.chatbackcomedy.com) for details and visit [www.wegotickets.com](http://www.wegotickets.com) to book.

## JO FOOKS

Thursday, November 25,  
The Tower Theatre, Folkestone



JAZZ saxophonist Jo Fooks graces the stage at the next concert from the Tower Jazz club.

The former Humphrey Lyttelton tenor sax star plays at 8.30pm.

The club's Derek Woodland said: "This brilliant young lady saxophonist will delight the audience as she did the last time she played, to a near full house."

"Her charisma and smile light up any room she plays in, plus the wonderful melodic playing of this artist at the top of her profession is a rare experience in today's jazz world, and will delight every lover of jazz and good music."

"The policy of the Tower Jazz Club is to bring the greats to Folkestone at the fraction of the prices in London."

Jo comes from Scotland, where she won the young musician of the year award before moving to study at The Guildhall School of Music in London.

She will be backed by Martin James on keyboard, Alex Keen on double bass and Rod Brown on drums.

Visit [www.jofooks.com](http://www.jofooks.com) for more information. The theatre is in North Road, Shorncliffe, Folkestone. Admission is £6.





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**C**ALLING ALL CAT AND DOG OWNERS -  
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Vet practice calls for pet owners in **Whitstable** to participate in a nationwide screening programme to test all cats and dogs for diabetes as obesity levels soar - **free diabetes 'test strip' available during Pet Diabetes Month**

The nationwide screening campaign to test all cats and dogs for diabetes is being championed by **Animed** this November as part of Pet Diabetes Month. **The Great Pet 'Pee' Test campaign** aims to mobilise the region's pet owners to collect a free diabetes 'test strip' from the practice to check their cat or dog for diabetes and submit the result in a special online survey on diabetes.

**Animed** is joining The Great Pet 'Pee' Test initiative to make more owners aware of diabetes in cats and dogs, and to highlight the current under-diagnosis in many pets. With 65 per cent of pets now estimated to be overweight by the RSPCA, diabetes in animals is on the increase, partly as a direct result of ever-increasing levels of obesity - as with the human population. Over a five year period, leading veterinary charity, PDSA, has seen a ten per cent rise in the number of overweight dogs. Given the current canine population, this could represent an increase of over half a million overweight dogs.

To join the campaign, pet owners simply need to visit **Animed** during November to pick up a **free Great Pet 'Pee' Test information leaflet** and test strip, then dip the test strip in their cat or dog's 'pee' to indicate a positive or negative result.

Owners can log the findings anonymously on **www.petdiabetesmonth.co.uk**. For each logged

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result, 10p will be donated to PDSA by the campaign's organisers, **Intervet/Schering-Plough Animal Health**. Findings from the survey will be used to help assess current pet diabetes levels throughout the UK and to identify any regional variations.

The launch of the first ever Great Pet 'Pee' Test comes as rising numbers of UK vets believe diabetes to be under-diagnosed. **It is currently estimated that up to 1 in 100 cats and dogs develop diabetes**, although this figure is expected to rise with the spiralling increase in pet obesity.

**Animed** is hoping that Whitstable pets will be amongst the thousands of UK pets tested during Pet Diabetes Month in The Great Pet 'Pee' Test campaign to see if they might be at risk of diabetes. If a positive result is recorded, owners are advised to bring their pet to the practice for a blood test to confirm the diagnosis.

As with many diseases, early diagnosis is important. Signs that a pet may be at risk of diabetes include drinking too much water, urinating too much, weight loss despite an increased appetite, and lethargy. However, these signs are not always obvious and easy to miss.

Diabetes can cause dogs and cats to become very sick. If diabetes is left untreated, sadly, coma and death can occur. However, with the correct insulin therapy and diet, diabetic pets can lead a long and healthy life.

**Mark Moreton from Animed** said: "By mobilising pet lovers to participate in The Great Pet 'Pee' Test campaign we hope our pets will be tested for diabetes and raise awareness of this growing disease. **With early diagnosis and correct treatment, you can restore the quality of your pet's life and maintain a healthy lifespan.**"



For further information and to join The Great Pet 'Pee' Test, contact **Animed** during Pet Diabetes Month this November or visit **www.petdiabetesmonth.co.uk**

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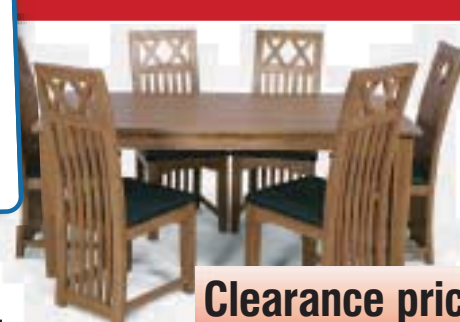
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## MOTORS NEWS



### Fiat twin clean engine set to attack diesels

FIAT'S latest winning tech is a small but powerful, low emission turbocharged petrol engine that escapes road tax and will re-open the petrol v diesel debate.

The Italian marque has dropped this punchy little unit into its big-selling baby car, the 500 – pretty much an unbeatable combination.

The lively 85bhp 875cc two-cylinder engine is called the TwinAir and claimed to be the cleanest quantity production petrol engine in the world. Priced from £10,665, it's even available opentop.



### Meriva could be bidding for award stardom

VAUXHALL could make it two European Car of the Year (COTY) wins in three years with its clever and stylish Meriva MPV (from £12,995).

It has already beaten off 34 rivals to the award and is now shortlisted for the finals later this month; a win would follow up on the Insignia's victory two years ago and avenge the Astra's narrow defeat last year by the VW Polo.

The Meriva's ace up the sleeve is its rear-hinged back doors designed for extra family appeal.



### Welcome the 4x4 plus DSG combo from Skoda

SKODA now offers its robust 2.0 TDI CR 140bhp diesel with 4x4 and automatic DSG transmission on hatchback and estate Superbs, and the Octavia Estate and Scout.

The combination delivers affordable high-quality, all-wheel drive with the flexible DSG auto 'box, and for equivalent fuel consumption.

The Czech marque also hopes this new option will draw buyers needing a tow car, as well as AWD for tricky or snowy conditions. Prices start at £21,705.



**CLEVER LINES:** The interior of the new Kia Venga is impressive, ideal for families, and has an impressive price to match, but the overall driving quality is a bit lacklustre

# Kia scores with the Venga

## ROAD TEST KIA VENG

BY STEVE LOADER

### STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

litre petrol model though, I don't see this as a deal breaker. It is a bit unrefined but there is plenty of power even when you cram this little spaceship, while the mpg should average in the mid-40s.

There is also a 124bhp 1.6-litre unit with an automatic 'box (from £14,100), but it is not particularly economical and high emissions make the road tax steep at £250 in year one and £180 thereafter.

There is an 89bhp diesel too (from £12,760) with Kia's low emissions and consumption EcoDynamics package including 'Intelligent Stop and Go' to automatically kill and revive the engine in turgid traffic conditions; it could give you an average of more than 60mpg and offers zero road tax in the first year and a piffling 30 quid after that.

But it will cost you £1,300 more than a petrol equivalent, whatever trim you choose, and it does feel lumpy – the petrol is livelier and simply nicer to be in.

• IT'S not hard to see why Kia launched the Venga earlier this year.

No, it's not intended to be a tribute to Arsenal's long-running soccer manager, but mini-MPVs like the Kia are where the crowds and the big wonga are.

Last month's Paris Motor Show proved the point as the wraps came off three big new players:

Toyota unveiled the Verso-S, a rather belated though impressive challenger in a sector the Japanese giant claims to have invented with the original Yaris Verso (2000-2005), though it was so pug-ugly you could argue that Toyota nearly strangled a new niche at birth.

Hyundai chose Paris to reveal the ix20 – sister to the Venga, since Kia is the other half of the huge Hyundai group.



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#### SEAT Leon 1.9 TDi S Emocion 5-Door Hatchback

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#### 51 Plate BMW 3 Series 2.5 325Ci 2-Dr Convertible

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#### 2008 Mitsubishi Lancer 1.6 Equippe 4-Door Saloon

Finished in Metallic Gunmetal Grey, Manual, 21,800 miles. was £7,995\* **Now £6,995\***

#### 2004 Volkswagen Touran 1.6 S (100BHP) 7-Seat

Finished in Blue Metallic with a Grey Cloth interior, 50,500 miles. £6,995 **Now £6,495\***

#### 07 Plate SEAT Ibiza 1.4 16v Style

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#### 56 Plate Honda Jazz 1.4i-DSI SE 5-Door Hatchback

Finished in Ice Blue Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 21,135 miles. £5,795

#### 2006 Fiat Punto 1.2 Active 5-Door Hatchback

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#### Citroen Berlingo 2.0 HDi Multispace Desire 5-Door Estate

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#### 2006 Ford Ka 1.3 3-Door Hatchback

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#### Vauxhall Astra 1.6 Club 16v 5-Door Hatchback

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#### 52 Plate Toyota Yaris 1.0 16v VVT-i GS 5-Dr

Finished in Green Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 69,050 miles. £2,995

#### 2002 Daewoo Tacuma 1.6 SE 5-Door MPV

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\*Correct at time of going to press.

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**147, 1.9 JTD 16v MULTIJET LUSSO**, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering tonneau cover remote central locking, grey, 51447 miles, £5000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**147, 1.9 JTD 16v MULTIJET LUSSO**, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering tonneau cover remote central locking, grey, 51447 miles, £5000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**147, 1.9 JTD 16v MULTIJET LUSSO**, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering tonneau cover remote central locking, grey, 51447 miles, £5000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

**159, 2.4 JTDm LUSSO**, 2007, abs brakes air con alloys cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering remote central locking remote audio controls, black, 28347 miles, £11000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

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**A3, 1.9 SPORTBACK TDI**, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cruise control diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering tonneau cover traction control remote central locking remote audio controls, silver, 22065 miles, £11000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**A3, 1.6, 2010**, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering traction control remote central locking, silver, 8367 miles, £16000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**A3, 2.0 TFSI S line DSG**, 2006, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering sports seats traction control trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers rear headrests 3x3 point rear seat belts heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat, grey, 84428 miles, £9250, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

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**1 SERIES, 116i SPORT**, 2006, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power steering remote central locking remote audio controls, blue, 24123 miles, £9000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

**1 SERIES, 120d Sport**, 2006, abs brakes alloy wheels drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering single cd player traction control front parking sensors, black, 44450 miles, £11000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**3 SERIES, 330 Ci SPORT**, 2003, alarm fitted alloy wheels electric windows multiple airbags reverse parking aid remote central locking front armrest rear armrest heated door mirrors, grey, 73000 miles, £8000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**X3, Sport**, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control heated seats immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power fold mirrors power steering reverse parking aid, grey, 42165 miles, £13850, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**X3, Sport**, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows heated seats immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power fold mirrors power steering reverse parking aid, grey, 42165 miles, £13850, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

**X3, Sport**, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control cruise control drivers airbag electric windows heated seats immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power fold mirrors power steering reverse parking aid, grey, 42165 miles, £13850, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**X5, Sport**, 2003, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering satellite navigation, topaz, 59113 miles, £12000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**X5, 3.0i**, 2003, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser power steering trip computer remote central locking roof bars electric sunroof adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers 3x3 point rear seat belts heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat, silver, 69000 miles, £9000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**CHEVROLET**

**AVEO, LT**, 2009, cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering, grey, 8073 miles, £6500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

**FORD**

**C-MAX, 1.6 Zetec**, 2007, tonic, 9000 miles, £8995, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

**C-MAX, 1.6 Style**, 2008, avalon, 8000 miles, £8995, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

**C-MAX, 5, fg57dpx**, insurance group 11 abs air conditioning alarm alloy wheels audio remote control body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electrodor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd remote central locking side airbags steering wheel rake adjustment steering wheel reach adjustment, 1 owner history, moonduist silver, 35000 miles, £6483, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

**FIESTA, 1.4TDCi Style +**, 2009, tango, 3400 miles, £10495, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

**FIESTA, 1.25 Style Climate**, 2008, moonduist silver, 42400 miles, £5995, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

**FIESTA, 1.4 Zetec Blue**, 2008, moonduist silver, 14000 miles, £6995, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

**FIESTA, 1.25 Zetec**, 2009, avalon, 9900 miles, £3995, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

**FIESTA, 1.25 Style Climate**, 2008, amethyst, 6400 miles, £7495, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

**FIESTA, Zetec Blue 1.4 TDCi**, 2008, moonduist silver, 17000 miles, £7995, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

**FOCUS, ZETEC climate**, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser power steering remote central locking, silver, 48670 miles, £6500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

**FOCUS, Style**, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering trip computer remote central locking, silver, 33602 miles, £7000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

**FOCUS, Style**, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, red metallic, 6000 miles, £9000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

**FOCUS, Zetec (115) Climate Pack**, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points, silver, 45768 miles, £7000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

**FUSION, Plus 1.4 Durashift Automatic**, 2009, ocean blue, 10000 miles, £8995, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

**FUSION, 1.4TDCi Zetec**, 2010, sea grey, 5 miles, £12495, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

**FUSION, 1.4 TDCi Zetec Climate**, 2007, sea grey, 32000 miles, £6995, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

**FUSION, 1.6 Zetec Climate Automatic**, 2007, amethyst, 4715 miles, £6995, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

**GALAXY, Zetec**, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels central locking diesel electric windows power steering trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points, blue, 48353 miles, £12750, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

**GALAXY, zetec**, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser power steering remote central locking adjustable steering column height adj drivers seat, metallic silver, 64000 miles, £6500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

**KA, Edge**, 2010, blue, 4989 miles, £8500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

**KA, 1.3 STYLE ( 0% FINANCE NOW AVAILABLE )**, 2006, cd player, silver, 24725 miles, £3999, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

**KA, 1.3**, 2008, red, 50 miles, £10000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

**KA, luxuryKa**, 2002, black, 39582 miles, £2999, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**KA, 1.3**, 2008, abs brakes cd player central locking climate control electric windows immobiliser, blue, 50 miles, £10000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**HONDA**

**ACCORD, VTEC Executive automatic Sat Nav + Leather, wg04nfe**, full leather, climate control, abs, power steering, parking sensor, multi-function steering wheel, electric mirrors, electric windows, satellite navigation, remote central locking, colour coded body cd player, rear wash/wipe, metallic paintwork, front fog lamps, 15" alloys, blue, 89000 miles, £5449, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

**ACCORD, 2.0 i VTEC Type S auto SAT NAV, g56pyr**, air conditioning, climate control, colour satnav, half leather, remote alarm, remote central locking, rear headrests, power steering, traction control, abs, multiple airbags, colour coded body, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, electric mirrors, electric windows, radio, steering wheel audio controls, powered folding mirrors, alcantara leather, cruise control, multi-function steering wheel, multi-disc cd player, dvd player, 17" alloys, rear parking sensors, always over 60 Mercedes-benz cars in stock!

**ACCORD, 2.0 i VTEC Type S auto SAT NAV, g56pyr**, air conditioning, climate control, colour satnav, half leather, remote alarm, remote central locking, rear headrests, power steering, traction control, abs, multiple airbags, colour coded body, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, electric mirrors, electric windows, radio, steering wheel audio controls, powered folding mirrors, alcantara leather, cruise control, multi-function steering wheel, multi-disc cd player, dvd player, 17" alloys, rear parking sensors, always over 60 Mercedes-benz cars in stock! we will not be beaten on price! fully fa regulated, metallic grey, 30000 miles, £8495, Welling, 0208 8548037 (TRADE)

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**S320 CDI, (REVERSING CAMERA, REDUCED £1749 SAVING)**, 2008, green black metallic, 25882 miles, £33995, Canterbury, 0844 558 7049 (TRADE)

**S320 CDI**, 2007, iridium silver metallic, 22000 miles, £29290, Maidstone, 0844 558 7050 (TRADE)

**S320 Limousine CDI**, 2009, iridium silver metallic, 21454 miles, £38998, Ashford, 0844 558 7048 (TRADE)

**S350 CDI, BlueEFFICIENCY BlueTEC LWB**, 2010, palladium silver metallic, 100 miles, £73990, Tonbridge, 0844 558 7055 (TRADE)

**S500 Limousine**, 2006, tansanite blue metallic, 14832 miles, £39990, Tonbridge, 0844 558 7055 (TRADE)

**MG**

**TF, 1.8 135 16v**, 2004, silver, 50000 miles, £4000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

**TF, 1.8 135 16v**, 2004, silver, 50000 miles, £4000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**TF, [no trim], 04**, excellent condition, 2 lady owners.taxed and mot.central locking. alarm/immobiliser. radio/cassette. lovely car. blue, 30000 miles, £34900, Pauline Martin, 01843 866052 (PRIVATE)

**TF, 1.8 135 16v**, 2004, silver, 50000 miles, £4000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**ZR, 105**, 2005, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels central locking drivers airbag immobiliser central locking, steering sports seats, green, 57395 miles, £3100, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

**ZR, 105**, 2005, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels central locking drivers airbag immobiliser power steering sports seats, green, 57395 miles, £3100, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

**ZR, 1396cc 3 door**, 2002, cd player driver's airbag power steering title check immobiliser, red, 70250 miles, £2750, Sittingbourne, 01795 476222 (TRADE)

**MINI**

**COOPER, Mini Cooper 3dr**, ia5zf1s, air conditioning, power steering, cd player, electric windows, electric mirrors, full leather, panoramic sunroof, twin air bags, abs, metallic paintwork, front fog lamps, remote central locking, 16" alloys, aluminium silver, £1000 miles, £4999, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

**COOPER, S**, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels drivers airbag immobiliser multi cd player multiple airbags single cd player sports seats isofix child seat points, silver, 17125 miles, £13000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)



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**2003 53 Reg SAAB 9-3 2.0T Aero**, 4 Doors, Manual, Saloon, Petrol, 121,170 miles, Metallic Black Sat Nav, Bluetooth Handsfree Leather seat trim, Radio/CD, Cruise control, Alloy wheels, Immobiliser, Full Electric Pack, Remote central locking, Trip computer, Alarm, Headlight washers, Body coloured bumpers, Rear armrest, PAS, Air conditioning, Anti theft system, Climate Control, Full Service History, Sports seats, Tinted glass.....**NOW £3,995**

**2001 Y Reg SAAB 9-5 2.0T SE**, 102,941 miles, 4 Doors, Automatic, Saloon, Petrol, Metallic Grey, 4 Owners. Heated door mirrors, ABS, Radio/CD, Rear headrests, Cruise control, Folding rear seats, Alloy wheels, Immobiliser, Side airbags, Leather upholstery, Front electric windows, Electric door mirrors, Rear electric windows, Remote central

locking, Drivers airbag, Trip computer, Leather seat trim, Air conditioning, Radio/Cassette, Traction control, Body coloured bumpers, PAS, Climate Control, Service indicator, Electric mirrors, Remote locking.**NOW £2,495**

**2000 W Reg SAAB 9-32.0T**, 5 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Petrol, 70,471 miles, Metallic RED, 2 Owners. Central locking, Folding rear seats, Trip computer, Passenger airbag, Steering wheel reach adjustment, Cloth upholstery, Part Service History, Child locks, CD, Immobiliser, Side airbags, Front electric windows, Electric door mirrors, Rear electric windows, ABS, Headlight washers, Body coloured bumpers, PAS, Radio/Cassette, Air conditioning, Service indicator.....**NOW £2,495**

**R Reg SAAB 9-32.0i**, 5 Doors, Manual, Hatchback, Petrol, 1998, 66,678 miles, Black, 1 Owner. Rear wiper, Trip computer, Cloth upholstery, Immobiliser, Part Service History, Remote locking, Service indicator, Electric door mirrors, ABS, Adjustable seats, Adjustable steering column/wheel, Air conditioning, Alloy wheels, Anti theft system, CD, Central locking, Electric mirrors, Electric windows, Foglights, Head restraints, Headlight washers, Heated seats, Metallic paintwork, Passenger airbag, Power assisted steering, Rear armrest, Side airbags, Steel wheels, Sunroof, Tinted glass, Wheel trims.....**NOW £1,595**

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First Instalment	Final Instalment	Total Amount Payable	0%APR
<b>£77.75</b>	<b>£78.05</b>	<b>£3999</b>	

### 0% APR Finance

02 Plate  
Ford Focus 4dr



Cash Price	Deposit	Balance to Finance	22 Monthly Payments
<b>£3399</b>	<b>£99</b>	<b>£3300.00</b>	<b>£137.50</b>
First Instalment	Final Instalment	Total Amount Payable	0%APR
<b>£137.50</b>	<b>£137.50</b>	<b>£3399</b>	

### 0% APR Finance

08 Plate  
Ford Ka



Cash Price	Deposit	Balance to Finance	34 Monthly Payments
<b>£4499</b>	<b>£1349.70</b>	<b>£3149.30</b>	<b>£87.48</b>
First Instalment	Final Instalment	Total Amount Payable	0%APR
<b>£87.48</b>	<b>£87.50</b>	<b>£4499</b>	

### 0% APR Finance

05 Plate  
Vauxhall Agila



Cash Price	Deposit	Balance to Finance	22 Monthly Payments
<b>£3999</b>	<b>£1199.70</b>	<b>£2799.30</b>	<b>£116.63</b>
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<b>£116.63</b>	<b>£116.81</b>	<b>£3999</b>	

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## PROPERTY NEWS

### Wallflowers step into the garden limelight

PROPERTY-owners are increasingly choosing more traditional styles for their garden makeovers, according to the Society of Garden Designers who say people are looking to the past for inspiration.

Thomas Hoblyn, a spokesman for the group, said that wallflowers had previously been considered "a bit of a 70s plant" but have proven popular over recent months.

"There is a big, strong revisit to this retro 70s and 80s feel about things," he said.

Online garden retailer Greenfingers.com recently reported year-on-year growth of 49 per cent, while sales topped £4 million in the year to September 2010.

Mr Hoblyn suggested that the recession may have been behind gardeners' return to more traditional plants, noting that chrysanthemums had also experienced renewed popularity.

"Chrysanthemums used to be considered really tacky, but now they are everywhere this winter," he said.

### Better protection for high-end landlords

A MAJOR change to legislation regarding shorthold tenancies has brought good news for landlords of high-end properties who fear they could fall victim to unwanted sitting tenants.

In the past, Assured Shorthold tenancy agreements were only valid for properties with an annual rental of £25,000 or less. For properties attracting rentals in excess of this amount, tenants were instead required to enter into a contract outside of the Housing Act which, ironically, was easier to flout.

However, the Assured Tenancies order which came into effect in October raises the annual rental threshold from £25,000 to £100,000 – protecting all landlords except those with seriously expensive properties to let.

The move has been welcomed by Katie Elliott of west Kent lettings agency Alexanders, who said: "This change is significantly good news for landlords everywhere, but especially here in the south east where we have a lot of properties which fall outside of the £25,000 bracket."

"By an ironic quirk of the old legislation, landlords with high rental properties had less protection under the law and could be more at risk from sitting tenants, who refused to move when their contract came to an end."

"The shorthold tenancy agreement is much more watertight," she said.



**MIXED MESSAGES:** Leading lenders have given different views on the property market in recent weeks, one saying house prices have risen, one saying that they have fallen

# Market analysis opens the door to confusion

BY NICK AMES

TWO leading lenders have offered contrasting views on how the market has performed in recent weeks.

The Halifax has revealed that UK house prices rose by 1.8 per cent last month, following a 3.6 per cent fall in September.

The latest house-price rise takes the average cost of a UK home to £164,919, the Halifax said.

According to the lender, the monthly increase was three times faster than expected and means house prices are 1.2 per cent higher than a year ago.

Meanwhile, the rate of change in each quarter of the year, which is a more reliable indicator or near-term price trend, revealed a 1.2 per cent fall in October, said the Halifax.

Analysts had expected a rise of 0.6 per cent on the month and a three-month annual rate of 0.7 per cent.

The figures differ vastly from those from the Nationwide Building Society, which last week revealed a 0.7 per cent fall for the month of October.

Commenting on the figures, Halifax housing economist Martin Ellis said the high level of instructions on the market, coupled with a lack of buyer demand, had "put some downward pressure on prices in recent months".

He said: "We do not believe that prices are set to fall sharply over a sustained period."

Estate agents also have some less than positive findings – but across the UK the market shows clear signs of discrepancy.

Prices in the South East and values of home

continue to be far more resilient than those in other parts of the UK.

Hometrack, the property data company, asked estate agents for realistic house prices in every postcode in England and Wales.

It found that falls occurred in 56 per cent of all postcodes with only 0.1 per cent experiencing an increase.

This is the fourth month in which prices have decreased, showing a clear downturn in the market.

However, the number of homeowners putting their homes on the market continued to increase, seeing a rise of 1.9 per cent.

Richard Donnell, director of research at Hometrack, said that this "mismatch" between supply and demand looks likely to continue.

"A stand-off is beginning to emerge between buyers waiting for prices to fall further and sellers being unrealistic on the price they're willing to accept."

"We expect a modest adjustment in prices rather than a return to the double digit falls seen in 2008," he said.

## Make a green deal on your home and save

HOMEOWNERS are being urged to renovate their properties in a bid to make them more environmentally friendly, as part of the Government's energy-saving strategy.

Landlords have also been included in the drive which experts say can help to save money by cutting heating bills.

Dubbed the Green Deal, the scheme has been designed to make energy efficiency more accessible to the public – whether people own or rent their home.

"The Green Deal's about making people feel as warm as toast in their homes."

"I want Britain to say goodbye forever to leaky lofts and chilly draughts," said energy and climate change secretary Chris Huhne.

He added that, as the prices of gas and electricity continue to rise, increased energy efficiency is a "no-brainer".

Expected to launch in autumn 2012, the Green Deal programme will allow property owners to make energy-efficient upgrades with government finance.

The subsidy would then be paid back through savings made on energy bills as a result of the improvements.

According to Mr Huhne, in the build up to the Green Deal, 3.5 million homes across the UK are likely to benefit from extra insulation by 2012, as part of changes to the obligation on energy suppliers announced earlier this year.

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#### **SINGLETON HILL**

There is a conservatory and adjacent garage with this sought after three storey town house three bedrooms (master en suite) family sized kitchen.

**£225,000**



#### **MERSHAM**

Executive det property on quarter acre plot in sought after village. Four bedrooms (master en suite) main bathroom, sitting room, dining room, garden room, large kitchen, utility room, double garage, laundry room with shower. Well kept gardens oil fired heating. Rarely available must be seen.

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#### **SOUTH ASHFORD**

17ft square workshop with this attractive semi detached home three good sized bedrooms new bathroom with shower bath sitting room large kitchen /diner rear vehicle access double glazed gas heating no chain.

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#### **SINGLETON**

This is a rarity detached apartment with two bedrooms, kitchen built in apps, bathroom, sitting room, garage with utility space, gas heating, double glazing. No chain, must be seen.

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#### **SINGLETON HILL**

Attractive double fronted town house enjoying views to the downs Acc set over three floors cloakroom, sitting room, kitchen/diner, utility room, four bedrooms (master en suite) main bathroom, and separate shower room. Double garage, double width drive priced to sell.

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Csurprisingly large plot with this semi detached bungalow situated in a small cul de sac two bedrooms sitting room kitchen bathroom small conservatory garage with adjacent off road parking gas heating double glazing no chain.

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#### **KNIGHTS PARK**

this three bedroom semi detached has the benefit of an en suite and two allocated parking spaces cloakroom sitting room dining room kitchen (built in oven and hob) double glazed gas heating no chain.

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Detached four-bedroom family home set in the popular location of Park Farm. Further accommodation consists of lounge, fitted kitchen, utility room, separate dining room, downstairs cloakroom, family bathroom and en-suite to the master bedroom. To the rear is a well-maintained garden with lawns and patio, off road parking.



**KENNINGTON £395,000**  
Detached four-bedroom family home on the outskirts of Ashford. Further accommodation consists of lounge, study/dining room, kitchen and breakfast room, conservatory with utility area, downstairs cloakroom, bathroom and en-suite shower to bedroom one. Parking for approximately 6 cars with the addition of a single garage.



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- Nightly entertainment - special guests: the Dagenham Girl Pipers
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- 3 dinners and 3 breakfasts
- Leisure facilities: Indoor pool & sauna
- Return car ferry
- **FREE DRINKS** from 3.30pm to 11pm on Friday and 12noon to 11pm on Saturday & Sunday. Drinks include house beers & spirits, house wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers, tea & coffee



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- Leisure facilities: Indoor pool & sauna
- Return car ferry
- **FREE DRINKS** from 3.30pm to 11pm on Friday and 12noon to 11pm on Saturday & Sunday. Drinks include house beers & spirits, house wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers, tea & coffee



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Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS

## About us

KOS Media publishes the UK award-winning Kent on Sunday newspaper and a series of free weekly newspapers, magazines and associated websites and mobile products.

The company produces [kentnews.co.uk](http://kentnews.co.uk) and [yourkentTV](http://yourkentTV), an internet-based TV service providing regional and local news, business and sport, plus websites for jobs, property and motors.

KOS Media's newspapers have won more than 10 national awards, including UK Regional Newspaper of the Year, and UK Free Weekly Newspaper of the Year six times.

In June, 2010, media group Archant purchased KOS Media.

## Archant is the UK's largest independently owned regional media business

It is a community media company active in the fields of regional newspaper and magazine publishing, contract printing and internet communications. All its titles serve clearly defined communities, based around locations or interest groups.

Archant can trace its roots back more than 160 years and today remains one of the country's largest independent media businesses. As a private company it employs 1,850 people right across England. It has an annual turnover of £142 million.

The newspaper division, Archant Regional, produces four daily regional newspapers and around 60 weekly titles with a combined circulation of 2.25 million copies every week. It is a UK top six regional newspaper publisher. It also publishes many of the group's 180 websites and a number of its magazines.

Archant also owns three magazine companies, which between them produce around 80 magazines.



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## SUPERBIKES

### Camier taught a lesson or two

WORLD Superbike rider, Leon Camier, continued his recovery from a broken wrist after a trip to the California Superbike School in America.

The Ashford rider, who missed the last six races of his debut season in the World Championship through injury, travelled to America last week in a bid to refine his skills during the off season.

The school, which has helped a number of top riders, teaches the art of cornering and last week the 23-year-old stepped up his preparation for the 2011 season with a refresher course.

Camier said: "The real proof that these techniques work, comes with the improvement I see right away in my riding and my lap times."

## HOCKEY

### Second win helps men climb league

#### Oxford Hawks 1 Ashford 2

ASHFORD men's 1st XI moved up to ninth in South Hockey League Premier Division Two with a win at Oxford Hawks.

Goals from Paul Cheap and Akim Toussant were enough to record a 2-1 win, which was only Ashford's second victory of the season. The much-needed three points has moved Chris Smith's side out of the relegation zone and into ninth place. They will look to build on the results on Saturday when they host fifth-placed Richmond.

Elsewhere, Ashford ladies 1st XI completed a 5-1 win against Cliftonville to move within two points of second spot in the Kent Hockey Association Premier Division. Cheryl Collier's side play Bexleyheath & Belvedere on Saturday.



**VICTORY:** Ashford men beat the Oxford Hawks

Picture DAVID PARSONS

## LEAGUE TABLE

(Not including midweek games)

### COUNTY LEAGUE DIVISION ONE EAST

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 APM	8	5	3	0	17	18
2 Bredhurst Juniors	7	4	3	0	8	14
3 Staplehurst & Mon	8	3	3	2	6	12
4 Otford United	7	3	3	1	2	12
5 Milton & Fulston	10	3	3	4	-8	12
6 Sheerness East	7	3	2	2	6	11
7 <b>Bromley Green</b>	6	3	2	1	5	11
8 New Romney	7	2	2	3	-2	8
9 Sheppey United	6	2	2	2	-2	8
10 Premier	4	2	0	2	1	6
11 Larkfield & New Hythe	8	0	3	5	-9	3
12 University of Kent	4	0	1	3	-6	1
13 Kennington	6	0	1	5	-18	1

#### FIXTURES (Saturday):

Kent County League Division One East: **Bromley Green** v Kennington

**PLEASE SEND YOUR SPORTS STORIES TO SPORTS EDITOR GLENN PEARSON AT glenn.pearson@kosmedia.co.uk**



## Green win at Sheppey as Mackett reaches 500

### FOOTBALL

#### Sheppey United 2 Bromley Green 4

BROMLEY Green continued their march up the Kent County League Division One East table after a comfortable win at Sheppey United.

The visitors made a positive start and took the lead with only five minutes on the clock. Glenn Mackett, making his 500th appearance for the club, picked out Ryan Norman with a cross and the midfielder's diving header flew into the net.

However, the lead was short-lived, as a free-kick eluded the Green defence and John Ralph's deflected effort beat goalkeeper Craig Smith.

Green, managed by Dave Smith, pushed forward in search of a second goal and came close when Paul Burt's curling effort went narrowly wide. But five minutes before the break, the visitors regained the lead with a well-taken free-kick from Rocky Hayles.

The visitors started the second-half strongly and extended their advantage with a stunning strike from Norman

on the hour. The midfielder escaped the challenges of two defenders before drilling a 25-yard shot into the bottom corner.

Sheppey responded well to the goal and hauled themselves back into the game when Ralph scored his second from a corner, which set up a nervy finish.

Green wrapped up the three points in the final ten minutes when Burt converted a penalty. Smith's side, who are just three points adrift of third-placed Staplehurst, face struggling Kennington on Saturday.



**STAR:** Glenn Mackett played his 500th game on Saturday

Picture BROMLEYGREEN.CO.UK



Pictures IOR KIPCO

**CALLED OFF:** Ashford's players were left with a disappointing home journey after a hamstring injury to the referee forced their game at Old Olavians to be abandoned

# Ashford storm into lead only for ref to get injured

ASHFORD were forced to relinquish a healthy lead as their Kent 1 clash against Old Olavians was abandoned due to an injury to the referee.

The visitors made their trip to face the Orpington side hoping to extend their advantage at the top of Kent 1, but the abandonment early in the second-half ended their stay at the sharp end of the division.

Ashford, under the temporary leadership of Tony Kendall and Dan Reeves, made a bright start and stormed into a commanding 21-0 lead after a brace of tries from Joe Lakin and a score from Rory Beech. All three scores were converted by JJ Murray.

However, minutes before the break, the refer-

## RUGBY

■ BY TOM HOWARD

### Old Olavians 0 Ashford 21

MATCH ABANDONED AFTER 45 MINUTES

ee suffered a hamstring injury which was treated on the spot, allowing him to play on.

The second-half began, but five minutes after the restart the referee was unable to continue and the game was abandoned.

Under RFU guidelines if a game is abandoned before 60 minutes of play then a result cannot be given, so the fixture will have to be replayed at a later date.

First-team captain Pete Walsh said: "It's frus-

trating but there was nothing that could be done. It's just a shame because we were looking good and in front at the time. We will just have to play them later in the season."

On Saturday Ashford's Kent 1 promotion bid continues when they host mid-table Vigo at Kinney's Field. With the abandonment costing Walsh's side their place at the top of the league, they will be keen to make up the lost ground by recording their fourth consecutive win.

Walsh said: "Over the past few years Vigo have been our Achilles heel. They are a strong side and I think we have played out draws against them in our last two games."

"Vigo have a heavy pack which is always strong, but I think our guys will be able to cope with that. Tony and Dan have taken up the reins well in the coaching department and we are just carrying on as normal."



# Top sports celebrities aid Barham's cancer recovery

## GOLF

BY TOM HOWARD

**GOLFER** Benn Barham has received the all-clear after a cancer scare and says support from the likes of Tim Henman and Jamie Redknapp have helped him get through the "massive ordeal".

The European Tour player underwent an operation last month at Kent & Canterbury Hospital to remove a kidney, which was confirmed last week to have had a cancerous tumour.

The 34-year-old's recovery has been going well and he is now beginning to focus on playing golf again, after doctors told him he will not require cancer prevention treatment.

Barham, who lives in Tenterden, only discovered the tumour following an ultrasound scan for a stomach complaint earlier this year.

Since going under the knife, the Chart Hills member has been flooded with good luck messages from fellow European Tour golfers, ex-tennis star Tim Henman and former Liverpool and England midfielder Jamie Redknapp. Barham has been touched by the response and believes it has helped his recovery.

He said: "It's been a massive ordeal and the toughest thing I've had to go through in my life. I feel I've been extremely lucky and it's now a case of just looking after myself."

"I'm really pleased to have made the decision



**HELP:** Benn Barham said messages from Tim Henman and Jamie Redknapp have helped his recovery from cancer

to go ahead with the operation. I was bracing myself for the next challenge, so it was great to hear that I will not need cancer prevention

treatment. I need to have constant surveillance every six months, but it is a small price to pay after catching the tumour extremely early and touch wood, it's all good.

"It's amazing really and I have to thank everybody who has supported me up until now. My friends and family have been amazing, but I have had lots of messages from all sorts of people wishing me well."

"I've had emails, letters and cards and to be honest it's been overwhelming. Lots of guys from the European Tour and Challenge Tour have been in touch. Tim Henman has got in touch and wanted regular updates with how things have been going, and so have lots of people from all walks of life - from the postman to the next door neighbour to Jamie Redknapp and players on the Tour."

"It's such a wide spectrum of people who have really been wishing me all the best which really counts for a lot. It makes you feel everyone is behind you and it's been extremely helpful."

Although a return to the golf course is still some way off, Barham plans to convert his garage into an indoor putting green in a bid to stay sharp.

He said: "I don't want to rush back as I could get frustrated as I probably won't be able to play at my usual level. There won't be much to play for until January and February time anyway. I'm going to miss Tour School as I'm not going to be fit enough to compete, which is shame."

Barham begins his fitness programme at Tenterden's London Beach Hotel later this month.

## ATHLETICS



Picture: ADY KERRY

**FORM:** Candy Hawkins had a strong finish in her race

## Mixed fortunes for club at Kent Cross County League meet

ASHFORD Athletic Club endured mixed results in the third round of the Kent Cross Country League at Bexleyheath's Danson Park.

The women's race was dominated by Jenni Pereira, of Medway & Maidstone, who claimed victory by more than half-a-minute. However, there were also strong performances from the Ashford duo of Candy Hawkins and Jenny Brown, who finished 33rd and 34th respectively of a 57-strong field.

Samantha Beckett finished a respectable fourth in the women's under-20 event, while Amelia Jones recorded a top-ten with a seventh-placed finish in the under-17 category. Hester Hill continues to improve in the under-15 championship by knocking nearly a minute off her time from the last round to finish in sixth spot.

In the men's competition, Andrew Robertson and Warren Uden finished seventh and eighth respectively in a highly competitive under-20 race.

Arguably the best performance of the day came in the under-15 boys race with three Ashford athletes finishing in the top-20. Jack Goss was the highest placed runner after crossing the line in seventh, which was less than a minute behind eventual winner Max Nicholls of Tonbridge. Timothy Forsyth came home in eighth, while Declan O'Driscoll finished 14th.

Ashford will be represented in the fourth round of the Kent Cross Country League at Swanley's New Barn Park on December 4.

## LEAGUE TABLE

(Not including midweek games)

### KENT LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 VCD Athletic	11	7	3	1	+7	24
2 Herne Bay	11	6	4	1	+9	22
3 Beckenham Town	10	7	1	2	+9	22
4 Greenwich Borough	11	7	0	4	+17	21
5 Erith Town	11	5	4	2	+9	19
6 Sevenoaks Town	11	5	1	5	-2	16
7 Deal Town	12	5	1	6	-7	16
8 Tunbridge Wells	8	4	3	1	+11	15
9 Hythe Town	7	4	1	2	+6	13
10 Norton Sports	10	2	5	3	-1	11
11 Corinthian	11	3	2	6	-8	11
12 Fisher	10	3	1	6	-6	10
13 Lordswood	10	2	2	6	-7	8
14 Holmesdale	11	2	2	7	-8	8
15 Erith & Belvedere	7	2	1	4	-3	7
16 Sporting Bengal United	11	1	1	9	-26	4

### FIXTURES (Saturday):

Kent League Premier Division: Hythe Town v Tunbridge Wells

# Vase progress just the tonic for Hythe after FA Cup exit

## FOOTBALL

### VCD Athletic 1 Hythe Town 5

THERE was no evidence of an FA Cup hang-over for Hythe Town as they swept aside Kent League rivals VCD Athletic to progress in the FA Vase.

Scott Porter's side had five different players on the score sheet as they made light work of a VCD side which had won 3-2 when the sides met at Old Road on the opening day of the season.

Town must make the trip to either Royston Town or Leiston in the next round.

Hythe's long FA Cup run had come to an end with a 5-1 defeat at Hereford United a week earlier. VCD might have hoped the visitors would struggle to motivate themselves, but the tie was virtually sealed by half-time.

Gary Mickelborough, who scored at Hereford, gave Hythe a great start by opening the scoring on 15 minutes following good work from Craig Thompson. The latter missed two gilt-edged chances to double the lead, but made amends after running on to Mickelborough's through ball.

Brendon Cass made it 3-0 just before the break, forcing the ball over the line from close range.

Town continued to threaten after the break and a trip on Thompson allowed Dave Cook to make it 4-0 from the penalty spot. Jamie Wood netted a consolation, but Hythe had the final word when Ronnie Dolan, who along with Pat Kingwell has signed a new



Picture: ION KIPPO

**ON TARGET:** Dave Cook scored Hythe's fourth goal

contract, smashed home from fully 30 yards five minutes from time.

Tunbridge Wells visit Reachfields in the league this Saturday.

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**Nigel Mansell** was back at Brands Hatch talking about his win there 25 years ago



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